



Steele played for Hakoah and Gladesville



Visiting Melbourne again and appearing at the Her Majesty's Theatre, Tommy Steele tells of his interest in the game. Twenty years ago, (while also appearing in Sydney and Melbourne) he played a number of matches for both Hakoah (Vic) and Gladesville (N.S.W.).

His play in England's "Showbusiness Eleven" spanned many years and although some of the players were show people the team included ex-players who since have left the game.

"We had Arsenal's Wally Barnes (right back), Wolves' Billy Wright (centre forward), Tommy Docherty (left half), Danny Blanchflower (right half), and of course Tommy Steele (inside right).

"We were a good Second Division standard, and with the team having such good players, we were not easy to beat, with young players being fast down the wing, and crossing it over for the ex-pro to put the ball away," he said.

"When I played, there was only one team, but now there are seven, covering disc jockey's, TV showmen, TV all stars, even famous wrestlers." Many of the spectators came to the game to see how their favourite stars could play, what many did not know was many of the stars WERE players before going into films, for example Sean Connery (James Bond) played for Falkirk as centre forward until he was 24, and fans were thrilled to see Sean getting stuck in to the game and scoring goals.

With his busy work load, Tommy was unable to see games here, but was thrilled with "Soccer Action"

— BERNIE WASLIN

Olympic aims to break record, p. 3

ANGER OVER IMPORT BAN

Many PSL clubs are up in arms over a suggested new rule which will hamper further their ability to import players from overseas.

It is proposed that from January, 1983, a club will be allowed only three visa players, no more than one of whom can be imported for the new season.

No longer will a player who arrives on a temporary visa and then gains permanent residency be regarded as a fully-qualified Australian under the new rule.

His category won't change even if he becomes naturalised and the clubs feel this is ridiculous.

Makedonia president John Branov reacted strongly to the move.

"It would cost us \$100,000 if we had to buy six players locally as replacements," he said.

"Some of our players would have to return home or stay here without playing football."

"There are not enough good local players around to fill all these gaps anyway."

South Melbourne Hellas secretary Nick Sagiakos said: "It would be ridiculous for a player who has represented Australia to be banned because he first came here on a visa."

PSL official Tony Labbozetta said the proposed rule would come before the Council of Clubs at the next meeting at the end of the month.

"We have not yet adopted it but we believe in looking to local players for the future and most clubs are doing it already."

"Victorian clubs are two years behind NSW in developing a youth league and they will have to catch up, but I am sure we can reach a compromise with the ASF if necessary when the scheme is dealt with."

ASF president Sir Arthur George is the strongest advocate of the proposed new rule.

"We are bluntly telling these clubs that they have no business to be in the league if they cannot exist on Australian-born players," he said.

Only if a player arrives as a genuine migrant will he be accepted immediately and have the same privileges as an Australian-born player.

Such a case is Adelaide City's England youth inter-

national Neil Banfield who arrived from Crystal Palace as a migrant three weeks ago.

A player-coach coming to Australia on a visa in order to assist a developing area may gain limited local status, provided he does not transfer to another club.

Sir Arthur, speaking about the previous scheme, said: "We all know that one type of player comes here on a visa, gets to know a politician and gains permanent residency just for the sake of playing football."

The PSL has been asked by the ASF to suggest a formula to limit transfer fees on local players so that the new scheme can be implemented at a cost acceptable to the clubs.



John Branov



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Desertion in Tasmania, big news for Azzurri

South Australian champion Azzurri could have been playing in the 1982 PSL instead of West Adelaide.

That's what Azzurri secretary Ted Iuliano told me late last week.

Iuliano and his committee had talks with the ASF hierarchy and decided to run a feasibility study on competing in this year's PSL.

The results of the study showed that Azzurri would need about \$250,000 for a PSL season.

There was uncertainty about the structure of the PSL at the time and Phillips Industries just had pulled out of its sponsorship. That swayed Azzurri into not going all-out for the place in the PSL. It felt confident of winning at West's expense.

Money isn't a big problem for Azzurri. It owes about \$8,000 but it owns its own freehold hotel, the Azzurri Black Lion, near Hindmarsh Stadium.

The club bought the hotel about eight years ago for just over \$200,000. Iuliano estimates its current market value at between \$350,000 and \$400,000.

That's one hell of an asset. Owning the hotel on a freehold basis also means that Azzurri can use the asset as collateral for any major loan the club wishes to take out.

There's big news about to break concerning a multi-million dollar complex which Azzurri will develop.

Iuliano was reticent about unveiling details as yet. Understandably so as negotiations still are in progress. However the deal, first talked about some two years ago, should be clinched within two to three months. It's going to make other South Australian clubs look like minnows in the Pacific Ocean.

Azzurri's cup runneth over with more than just dollars. There are championships and cup honors also bubbling over the top.

Azzurri's cache in 1981 included the Rothman's State League championship, the Federation Cup, Coca Cola Cup and Charity Cup.

Frank Schaper was the man at the coaching helm. Needless to say his committee was well pleased with his efforts.

Schaper coached rival Para Hills for two seasons before joining Azzurri last year.

Robbie Dunn, the tall blond stopper with West Adelaide, is the only player gone from last year's all-conquering first team squad. He was swapped for goalkeeper David Miller.

Former South Melbourne Hellas, Ringwood Wilhelmina and St. Kilda Hakoah winger Chris Kent was all set to sign with Azzurri earlier this year.

Azzurri had agreed on a \$5,000 transfer fee with Kent's

last club, Hakoah (now Hellas-Hakoah in the Victorian State League) but couldn't agree on terms for a contract with Kent.

However Azzurri did come to terms with exciting 18-year-old prospect Andy Toland and bought the young midfielder from Port Adelaide for \$3,500.

Defender Barry Smith also was bought. He had a \$500 maximum transfer fee clause in his contract with Campbelltown.

There's nothing surer than that Azzurri will be up there fighting for a second successive championship. It surely is one of the most progressive clubs in South Australia.

Abonyi paid the most?

Blacktown coach Rale Rasic may not be the highest paid State League coach in Australia.

Rasic's former pupil Otis Abonyi, now coaching Riverwood (nee Armcliffe Social), may be ahead of the former Soccerro supreme in the dollar stakes.

When Riverwood went searching for a coach in 1980 it was believed to be offering about \$60,000 over three years. Not bad!

The best money in the Victorian State League is \$300 a week. That's what a leading State League club offered to a rival coach earlier this year.

The rival coach turned down the offer and stuck with the club with which he had done so well in 1981.

When it comes to player payments there's a fair-haired midfielder with a Melbourne based PSL club who is laughing all the way to the bank.

Without a word of a lie, this player gets \$500 a week, 52 weeks of the year.

No wonder he can afford to go to the races so often!

Trinca brothers to Tricolore

Across in the West, Azzurri is the best.

Perth Azzurri won the State League last year with an enviable unbeaten run which clinched a \$10,000 award from the Red Rooster.

Billy Mills has been brought out from Scotland to add strength to the champion club but the Trinca brothers, Aldo and Tony, have been loaned for a year to rival Tricolore.

paid through the nose for the brothers.

The Italian sponsored Azzurri reckons it can collect about \$20,000 in sponsorship this year, one of the best deals in the west.

Gordon Ferguson is in his fourth year as coach of Azzurri. He started off as player-coach but the old legs ain't what they used to be.

Club spokesman Frank Torrese tips Spearwood Dalmatinac as Azzurri's main danger to make it two titles in a row.

All but two quit ICL

Down Tassie way the price of success is believed to be in the region of \$25,000.

That's the reported debt incurred by last year's State champion Brighton.

The club was referred to last year as Brighton ICL but the ICL company has decided to take its sponsorship dollar elsewhere.

The parting of the ways after three years of sponsorship which amounted to just \$9,000 isn't the only blow to the champion. A certain high-ranking club official promised the sun, the moon and the earth to many first team players. To put it bluntly, the goods



AROUND AUSTRALIA

with

CRAIG MACKENZIE

didn't materialise come payment time.

So the players left — all but two out of last year's first team squad. John Parker and Chris Hey are the spartan duo left to carry on the battle in the league but Parker has been promised a free and could move soon. Victorian State League clubs Melbourne Croatia and Sunshine were very interested earlier this year.

believe that about 75 percent of the debt has been paid off and the rest will be taken care of by the end of this season.

Reducing such a debt in such a short time deserves a good slap on the back.

Let's log the player exodus:

John Charlton to Rapid West Point; Kevin Swincoe to Melbourne Juventus; Graham Skitchell back home to NZ; Billy Kirkpatrick and Willie Peters to Croatia Glenorchy; Perry Foster and Brian McKay to Olympia.

Oh, and last year's coach John Taylor still was considering legal action against the club last time I spoke to the big man.

Would you believe that Swincoe was the only player

for whom the club received any transfer money?

It's true! Seems that clause E on Tassie registration forms states that when a player signs with a Tassie club the player and the club agree on a transfer fee once the contract expires.

That high-ranking official referred to earlier came to an agreement on this matter with most of last year's players. He agreed that they would be freed once their contracts expired!

But all is not lost. The champion club has picked up a midfielder from NZ, David Hewitt, to play alongside Parker, Hey and most of last year's reserve side.

It's a black picture, granted, but I'm betting that Brighton won't be relegated this year like so many critics are tipping.

expect a cosy, mid-table finish in the state. Meanwhile the hard-working committee can continue to pull the club's head back above the murky, financial waters.

Costs cripple Queensland

You have to pay your own way from now on in the Queensland State League. Gone are the days when travel and accommodation costs were shared evenly by the member clubs.

When these costs were shared each club had to come up with about \$15,000 a season. It just got too much for Mt. Gravatt, Grange Thistle, Marreeba and Wynnum so they've shunned the State League and headed for the financial comfort of local competition.

To keep the league afloat the Queensland federation admitted Brisbane Lions and Brisbane City. These clubs will field their second string outfits and are bound to be challenging for title honors.

One of the clubs which faces a hefty cost to fit up and down throughout the State League season is Townsville but the third-placed club of 1981 isn't worried one bit.

Let's be conservative (because I was asked to) and say that Townsville can expect to rake in about \$50,000 in sponsorship this year.

On top of that the club owns shares in Lowry hotel in Townsville. The hotel's Blue and Gold lounge is sort of a social club for the soccer boys and there's sure to be regular income flooding in from the lounge.

Kenny Worden has landed the plum coaching job with Townsville. He shouldn't have been too surprised to get the job vacated by Tim White, now Director of Coaching for Victoria.

Odd couple to Spain

Talk about the odd couple! "Soccer Action" photographer Les Shorrock and the VSF's ground manager for Olympic Park, Albert Merrills, together in Spain for the World Cup.

In a caravan no less!

Shorrock's no dummy, though. He's taking along his infamous Tartan bonnet. Seeing that he'll be at Scotland's three preliminary round games he's done the right thing.

He'd better just nod his head when approached by one of the Scottish hordes, though. As soon as he opens his mouth his play will be uncovered, for he's a pomm.

The staple diet for the odd couple is powdered milk and porridge.

Shorrock's a real character when he's working behind the goals, clicking away at his Box Brownie.

I hope, for the sake of the Spanish organising committee, that Senor Shorrock restrains himself, especially during the final.

Imagine being one of a multi million TV viewing audience invited to the action in the final and watching a photographer wearing a Tartan bonnet hold up play while he argues with the referee over which side of the goal a corner should be taken from.

Not to mention drawing the referee's attention to a substitute illegally warning

Cole: 'We kick back now.' Stevenson: 'We have more skill'

The countdown to Sunday's Greek derby at Middle Park between Hellas and Heidelberg-Alexander has begun.

Here are the views of some of the players from both sides whose roles will be crucial to the outcome of this traditional battle.

ALUN EVANS (Hellas, captain and striker): On our day I've got no doubts

that we're a better team than Heidelberg.

We're a bit mixed up at present, what with players coming in and out of the side, and injuries.

However our record against Heidelberg over the past two years has been good.

I think our defence is a lot more solid than their defence. There's not much between the different forward lines but we've got more flair up front whereas they are fairly set in the method by which they go forward.

Don Macleod's an aggressive player and we had bit of a run in during this year's Ampol Cup.

Brisbane Lions' defender Col Bennett is a similar type of player. There's not a great deal you can do to combat aggressive stoppers. I try to be as quiet as possible and not get them too riled.

I just hope that the referee is on the ball. You can run into this type of player but it doesn't bother them much. I'll just keep my eye on the ball and I hope that the tackles aren't too high.

In recent weeks we've brought pressure on ourselves with poor results against J.U.C.T. and Canberra. It's entirely the fault of the players, but we can rectify this against Heidelberg.

Winning obviously will get us that bit closer to the top of the table and it means a lot to our Greek supporters.

I'm confident that we'll beat Heidelberg.

GARY COLE (Alexander, striker):

We're just about ready to hit a consistent patch and I think we'll beat Hellas on Sunday.

We've been through a lot in recent times. We were expected to destroy Marconi but they destroyed us, then we did well against Brisbane Lions.

We've been working on this



Alun Evans



Arthur Xanthopoulos

Man for man and as a team we're the better side.

It's really a clash of two different styles. They play with twin strikers whereas we use three up front. They've been playing that way for a while now and their players have been together for a few seasons.

Wee Jimmy Rooney keeps them ticking over in midfield but I think we've got more skill than them.

We've got enough experienced players to get us through our present situation and help bring on the younger players in the side.

I'm going into the game full of confidence.

JIM CAMPBELL (Alexander, midfielder):

This is the biggest game of the season as far as I'm concerned.

It's a derby with a great atmosphere and that will bring the best out of the players.

We'll win. We killed them in the Ampol Cup but just didn't take our chances.

With Kenny Taylor back in midfield this year I've been given a much freer role.

I like getting released to go forward and I'm really looking forward to Sunday.

Some people at Hellas think that they're more skilful. As far as I'm concerned that's a slightly big-headed attitude. We collapsed badly against Hellas in the Ampol Cup game but we've sorted out that problem. It won't happen on Sunday.

ARTHUR XANTHOPOULOS (Hellas, defender):

I'm always confident when we play Alexander because Hellas seems to hit a high in a big game and perform the way it can.

It's really a battle of skill and strength. We have the skill and they have the strength. Their asset is their running, on and off the ball. Gary Cole is hard to stop because of his physical ability. He's dangerous all the time and you can't give him an inch.

DON MACLEOD (Heidelberg, defender):

Of course we'll win on Sunday. We're a better team, better organised and we've got better players.

I'm really looking forward to the game. The atmosphere should be fantastic.

I enjoy playing against good players like Alun Evans. He's a seasoned professional and he knows all the tricks.

He's a great shielder of the ball and I'll have to stick close to him. I'll win everything in the air. I'll just try to get a foot in when he's in possession

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MASSIVE PROBLEMS THREATEN THE WORLD CUP!

Andrew Dettre



soccer-nut Henry Kissinger to referee the games.

Everybody seems slightly amazed that David Mitchell has been captured by Sydney City Hakoah rather than the other main bidder, Sydney Olympic.

The strength of their argument is that Olympic enjoys a much greater popular support and thus could have recouped its \$30,000 investment much easier and quicker.

This is, of course, true — if you go on gate takings. But few clubs anywhere in the world depend on that source alone for their revenue.

Sydney City's parent club, Hakoah, makes a \$30,000 profit — clear profit — about every fortnight; right through the year, soccer or no soccer.

And that, surely, is an adequate financial basis.

Another popular theory, gradually turning into a myth, is that Sydney City unfavourably "buys success".

The fact is that it hardly ever buys players — not at anywhere near the frequency of many other clubs.

In 1980 it bought one — Kenny Rodden. Last year it bought two — John Kosmina and Agenor Muniz. This year it's been Mitchell.

Four quality players in three seasons — surely less than the average in the FSL.

Admittedly, Sydney City usually goes after the big fish; not for the "cheaper by the dozen" syndrome.

This policy first was established by the club's late Tibor Kalman, an astute team manager, and most successfully continued by the present team "boss", Andrew Lederer.

Through some odd coincidence, both carved out a brilliant career in the small-goals and meat business.

However, those who chide the wealthy Slickers for their occasional splurges tend to forget that few clubs in Australia can sell players better than them.

Let me give you the example of John Stevenson for whom South Melbourne Hellas actually paid considerably more than the Slickers ever had expected or even demanded.

It's nothing short of tragic if, because of the Falkland Islands — Malvinas dispute, the three British teams (England, Scotland and Northern Ireland) and/or Argentina is forced to withdraw from the World Cup.

But, regrettably, it's not possible to separate sport from politics as the history of the Olympics and World Cup so clearly prove.

As for FIFA taking drastic action against Argentina because of its seizure of the Falklands — that's simply out of the question.

FIFA has made it quite clear over the years that it will not penalise countries for their political or even military actions, let alone, domestic politics.

If it did — international soccer would grind to a quick halt.

Should FIFA depart from this same platform, it could expel —

• The USSR for its occupation of Afghanistan;
• El Salvador for its civil war;
• Northern Ireland for the prolonged civil disturbances;
• Poland for defaulting on its \$25 billion debt to western banks; and just about every other member country for major or trivial reasons objectionable to some others.

So once again, we go into a World Cup finals series surrounded by political tension.

In 1974, following the 1972 Olympic massacre by terrorists, West German police and army groups had all the stadiums encircled by tanks, bazookas and gunship helicopters in case of another attack.

Four years ago the Argentinian government and all of us wondered if the "Mundial"

would be disrupted by the urban guerrillas called the "Montenaros" with whom troops had been having a running war for years.

And now to Spain where, apart from the possibility of Basque disturbances, we could have massive problems with or because of the —

• Argentina v England conflict

Doug Collins: Olympic aims to set goalscore record

Doug Collins, the 36-year-old coach of Sydney Olympic, has thrown Australian soccer conventions out the window by pursuing an all-out attacking style in away matches as well as at home.

Not for him the cautious approach of making sure of at least one point!

And it's paying off handsomely not only in championship points, but also in entertainment value and gate takings.

Witness the 12,000 crowd at Olympic's match against APIA two weeks ago.

Collins succeeded Tommy Docherty as coach of Olympic about 10 months ago, after 20 years as a professional in England.

During those 20 years he had: four years with Grimsby Town; nine years with Burnley; one year with Plymouth; one year with Sunderland; one year as player and coach with Tulsa Roughnecks in the U.S.; six months as player-coach of Derby County when Docherty was manager there; and a stint as player-manager of Rochdale before coming to Australia last year.

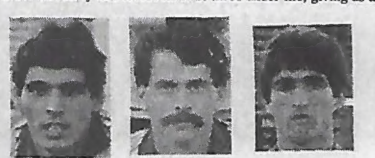
Collins talks about his job with Olympic and about the players under him, in his interview with "Soccer Action" editor LAURIE SCHWAB:

SCHWAB: Your good run in the league was marred somewhat by your 0-1 loss to Croatia in the NSW Ampol cup quarter-finals last week. What happened?

COLLINS: Anything I could say would probably sound like sour grapes, but I do think the refereeing left a lot to be desired. Croatia went to worry us and their tackling often was quite border-line, but the referee didn't bring out the yellow card until five minutes from the end and by then it was too late. But they deserve credit. They apparently had five men out of the side, but they did their job well. That's soccer. One minute you're on top, then you're kicked in the teeth just to show you're not as good as you may think.

SCHWAB: What kind of impression did you form about Olympic when you took over last year, on Docherty's recommendation?

COLLINS: I knew from what I had heard and seen that this was a good attacking side but had lost its last two games under Docherty and it lost its first three under me, giving us a



• KOUSSAS • ROGERS • ZIRAS

blue and white. We were OK when we had the ball but that we didn't have a clue when the opposition had it. I worked on that, so that each player would know exactly what to do and what his teammates had to do when the opposition was in possession.

SCHWAB: What exactly are their defensive duties now?

COLLINS: I can't tell you that. All I can say is that the back four know exactly what the midfielders will do, and the forwards know exactly what the midfielders will do. We work the opposition into certain areas.

SCHWAB: In other words, you force the opponents to play the ball into a certain direction.

COLLINS: That's right, but I'm not going to tell you into what directions. It's a team plan, that's all.

SCHWAB: Your team has been criticised, though, for being weak defensively.

COLLINS: I wouldn't agree. All I would concede is that we have been giving away sloppy goals. The first one against Adelaide City was sloppy, so was the one against St. George.

SCHWAB: With such a talented squad, you've been faced with some pretty difficult choices in team selection.

COLLINS: Ken Wilson and Tommy Gavin are the ones who have suffered. They've both been playing well but they haven't been in the side consistently. Wilson stands out the most in this regard. He had been playing in the back, but because of circumstances, we asked him to play midfield but when other players returned, he was out again. When Jimmy Redfern was injured, Wilson came in as centre forward and scored two goals against Adelaide City but once more he was out when we played against APIA, because Redfern came back. I'm sure Wilson will come back as a regular eventually but for the time being I have to stick with the team that's doing so well.

SCHWAB: Wilson also can play right back, but Martyn Rogers has been slotted in there. Is he the regular right back now?

COLLINS: When Rogers came out from England, Danny Moulis was the right back but Danny was injured and needed a cartilage operation. Rogers stepped in for him for the past six games and, together with Peter Katholos, he's been my most consistent player.

SCHWAB: Katholos, of course, has been leading our best player award for some weeks.

COLLINS: It's little wonder. He frustrates me sometimes but he's an amazing character and an amazing player. He's as good as anything I've seen in England and he could play anywhere.

SCHWAB: What makes him such a good player?

COLLINS: Determination and tremendous skill. Rarely do you get those two qualities together. Katholos battles right to the end of every game. He never stops. At times he holds the ball too long, but he makes up for it in other ways. He's a wonderful character to have around and he's very well liked by the



• KATHOLOS • RASKOPOULOS • P. WILSON

others. Really, I can't see a better player in Australia. Maybe I'm biased and maybe other coaches will have their own suggestions, but there's not a better midfield combination than Katholos and Raskopoulos for the national team.

SCHWAB: What would you say are the differences between Katholos and Peter Raskopoulos?

COLLINS: Raskopoulos is a thinker. Katholos is pure skill and motivation. Raskopoulos is more the general. He's on the ball less but he's a good distributor. He looks for the openings and he finds them.

SCHWAB: To what extent has Raskopoulos improved during your six months at the club? Let's remember that Marconel let him go.

COLLINS: I don't know if the World Youth Championships was what did it but he certainly has more confidence now. He's more mature, he believes in himself. He's always been aggressive — after all, he was a rugby player.

SCHWAB: You talked about Katholos holding the ball too long at times. The same criticism can be applied to your sweeper, Jim Ziras.

COLLINS: You're right, and it's worse for a defender, but you can't do much more than tell the boy. If he's not prepared to learn, he'll suffer in the long run. I believe a defender must know when to play, but he also must know when to give the ball a good boot up the park. Despite that fault of his, he's a very talented player, who has a knack for getting forward and finding the gaps.

SCHWAB: Have you ever threatened that you'll leave him out if he gets caught in possession too often?

COLLINS: No, I don't believe in that. I don't want to make him frightened of doing things. If he loses, it we've got to be prepared to accept that because he is, after all, doing it less now than when I first arrived.

SCHWAB: Mark Koussas has been praised to the heavens recently, yet he was criticised last season. How has he improved?

COLLINS: I was told early on that Mark Koussas could not score goals — that he was missing most of his chances. But he's been scoring plenty for me. He's still missing more than he's scoring but so long as he's there to miss them, I don't mind. At training I get him to have a crack every time he gets sight of the goal. I don't care how many times he misses, so long as he has a go. He does his share of work, too, but it's in the penalty area that he's most effective. He's quick and brave and he has an unorthodox approach. He does things which he really shouldn't do, but they often work for him. For example, he often turns into players when he should play the ball back. Even then, he somehow manages to power his way through. I saw George Best playing like that in the box. He'd bounce the ball off opponents' legs in order to score.

SCHWAB: The reputation of Graham Jennings has grown parallel with that of Katholos and Koussas. What kind of work have you done on him?

COLLINS: A lot. He has fantastic speed, so we have concentrated on exploiting it. But he's untidy at times and we're trying to correct that. Sometimes he loses concentration, he gets bogged down in the wrong areas, and he loses the ball after holding it too long, which can put two or three of our players out of the game when the opponents get the ball back.

SCHWAB: Does he come inside enough?

COLLINS: Yeah, plenty. It is true that we encourage him to go mainly down the line and to run at players, but he does get inside.

SCHWAB: But Redfern, when he's on the wing, always seems to have more opportunities open to him than Jennings does.

COLLINS: That's because he's a much more experienced player. But in our last four matches, Jennings has been great, and we still haven't seen the best of him. I'm sure he'll go on to play for Australia. I can't think of any other left wingers who are as good.

SCHWAB: Is it true that Tommy Docherty is to return to Olympic as manager, with you continuing as coach?

COLLINS: It is true that he's coming to Sydney, but I don't know if he's coming back to Olympic. He'll be here on May 9.

TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS IN COLOUR

ADELAIDE CITY, BRISBANE LIONS, CANBERRA CITY, FOOTSCRAY, HEIDELBERG, MARCONI, NEWCASTLE, PRESTON, S.M. HELLAS, SYDNEY CITY, SYDNEY OLYMPIC, WEST ADELAIDE, WOLLONGONG, ALBION ROVERS, CROYDON CITY, GREEN GULLY, GEORGE CROSS, HELLAS HAKOAH, KEW CITY, SUNSHINE CITY.

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SCHWAB: Traditionally, it is very hard for any coach to work with the big Greek clubs in Australia because the fans invariably apply heavy pressure when things go wrong. Have you come across that pressure yet?

COLLINS: It's been not too bad because we've done well. After one loss there did tend to be a little panic but when I'm attacked I attack back. After that loss however, we won four in a row, so I'll be able to answer the question better when we hit a bad run. I know there will be confrontation, but I'll just get on with the job and if they're not happy with me, I'll go elsewhere and be successful.

SCHWAB: No problems with the committee?

COLLINS: Not at all. I deal directly with the president, John Constantine, who relays my feelings back to the committee. He's an easy man to deal with. He's the same when we lose as he is when we win, just like me.

SCHWAB: Which team has been your strongest opponent this year?

COLLINS: South Melbourne beat us 2-1 by playing very defensively. Heidelberg, I feel will be up there because they have quality players, no matter what anyone says. Sydney City is a top team and APIA still is a good side although we beat them 2-0. They never gave up and, in my opinion, Marshall Soper is the best striker in Australia. He's fast, mobile and brave.

SCHWAB: Better than Gary Cole?

COLLINS: I think so. But I like Cole too, don't get me wrong.

SCHWAB: In the company of the teams you've mentioned, are you confident Olympic can win the title?

COLLINS: We'll be up there — at least in the top four, anyway.

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Soccer Around The World

Brietrer saves Bayern

West German champion Bayern Munich, three goals down after 18 minutes, staged a magnificent comeback before losing 3-4 to CSKA Sofia of Bulgaria in their European Cup semi final first leg in Sofia.

From JIM COOK
our European
correspondent



Rossi back, Jan Peters for England

Two two-year ban on Juventus striker Paolo Rossi for the bribes scandal is over and as he is wanted for Italy's World Cup squad it's likely he will figure in one of Juventus' few remaining league matches. Another good bit of news for Italy manager Enzo Bearzot is that Fiorentina midfielder star Giancarlo Antognoni, who fractured his skull over four months ago, has made a successful comeback with his club and will be fit for Spain.



Paolo Rossi



Jan Peters

Norwich City is letting its \$600,000 record signing of two years ago, Drazen Muzinic, go for free along with another eight players, most of whom have had considerable first team experience. Muzinic was on an expensive contract with the Canaries. As well as relieving Norwich of a big financial worry the player will be able to pick up a handsome signing fee from one of the many continental clubs sure

to seek his signature. Muzinic played only 25 first team games for Norwich in his two years after coming from Hajduk Split where he made 36 international appearances for Yugoslavia.

A 16-year-old Brighton fan who threw a lead weight at Brighton's Eire international striker Mick Robinson and badly scarred his face, was fined \$400 in court and ordered to pay \$100 compensation to Robinson.

Notts County, managed by that wry Scot, Jimmy Sirrell, has the smallest playing staff in either the First or Second Divisions, with a bare 22 pros. Sirrell has done a wonder job in establishing County back in the First Division on a shoestring budget and only one lavish signing — John Chidozie the Nigerian international striker from Orient.

Justin Fashanu, back in the Notts Forest side, grabbed

bed front page headlines in the 'Sunday People', hotly denying malicious gossip and allegations that he is a homosexual. Fashanu in fact says he has had a steady girlfriend — a Norwich model — for the past two years and said he will sue through his legal advisers if anything is said openly.

Argentine soccer really does have economic problems which have recently been highlighted by the plight of top side River Plate and the fact that Boca Juniors may have to sell Maradona, some of its playing staff have 100's of wages dating back to 1980. Root of the problem is the state of the country's economy. In 1978 just after the World Cup the rate of exchange was 800 Argentine pesos to the dollar. Now it's nearer 10,000 pesos to the dollar which spells bankruptcy.

Joe Harper, the former Scottish international striker who moved between Hibs, Everton and Aberdeen for figures totalling over half a million is now player-manager of Scottish Highland League side Peterhead.

The transfer deadline has come and gone in England and other than a couple of six-figure deals, around 30 other players moved clubs at peanut fees, on loan or at no cash transaction at all. This reflects on the economic crisis surrounding the game and is in contrast with the 1981 season when over \$5 million changed hands in transfer deals before the March deadline.

Biggest deal involved the return of central defender Steve Wicks to Queens Park Rangers from hard-up Crystal Palace. Wicks cost Palace \$1.4 million from QPR less than a year ago but the astute Terry Venables got a thief's bargain, getting Wicks back for just over \$600,000.

Only one other six-figure deal had a stock exchange look about it. Mick Harford, the Bristol City striker, moved to Birmingham via his former club Newcastle United for \$200,000. With the old Bristol City in the hands of the receiver and the club still owing Newcastle \$200,000 for his transfer, he moved back to the Geordie club for free who then picked up the \$200,000 fee from Birmingham. If the deal had gone through direct then the receiver would have collected the cash. Harford had a dream debut for the struggling Birmingham and got the only goal in its match with Brighton which gave it three points.

Two big loan deals involved striker Alan Biley of Everton who went to Stoke City while Richard Money the former Fulham defender who cost Liverpool \$600,000 was loaned to Luton Town. Former Scottish international captain Archie Gemmill kissed goodbye to his long service in British soccer when he was freed at 35 to join Jacksonville in USA.

George Best, who walked out on San Jose Earthquakes before their match with New York Cosmos, has been sacked by the NASL side whose manager says he won't play for them again.

No messing with Jock Stein. After British reporters had been denied access to interviews with Russian champion Dynamo Kiev's World Cup players, the Scotland boss brushed aside Russian journalists who wanted to interview him.

CSKA, conqueror of English holder Liverpool in the previous round, stunned Bayern with a three-goal blitzkrieg in the first 18 minutes.

But Bayern, champion of Europe from 1974-1976, refused to lie down.

Bayern's chances of appearing in the final in Rotterdam on May 26 looked non-existent after that opening burst.

It was still reeling from Dimitrov's early opener when Yonchev added the second with a blistering free-kick from 22 metres which left Bayern goalkeeper Manfred Mueller clutching thin air.

CSKA striker Stoycho Mladenov, who scored the two goals which knocked out Liverpool in the last round, set up the third against Bayern with a solo run into the Bayern penalty area which came to an abrupt end when he was fouled by defender Udo Hornsmann. Rade Zdravko gave Mueller no chance from the resultant penalty.

Bayern coach Pal Czernatny promptly sent on striker Dieter Hoeneß, brother of the club's general manager Uli, in place of Icelandic international Asgeir Sigurvinsson and the move quickly paid off.

For after Duerrenberger sparked the visitors' fight back in the 27th minute, Hoeneß struck just five minutes later to make the score 3-2.

But the Bulgarian struck again in the 48th minute when Bayern international Wolfgang Dremmler mismarked a pass straight to the feet of T. Tonchev, unmarked in front of goal, and he scored easily.

Bayern captain Brietrer completed the goal rush when he surged upfield in the 82nd minute to dispatch a fine drive past CSKA goalkeeper Georgi Velinov.

Aston Villa kept England's chances of a sixth successive European Cup triumph alive with a 1-0 victory over Belgian champion Anderlecht in Birmingham.

Villa owed its semi final first leg victory to England international winger Tony Morley, who collected a pass from midfielder Gordon Cowans in the 27th minute and drilled a low shot past Anderlecht goalkeeper Jacques Munaron.

But despite almost incessant pressure, Villa failed to convert a succession of chances into goals and its hopes of survival in the second leg in Brussels in two weeks' time looks slim.

Radnicki Nis of Yugoslavia beat Hamburg 2-1 in their UEFA Cup semi final first leg in Nis but with an away goal under their belts, the powerful West Germans look hot favourites to advance to the final.

EUROPEAN CUP
In Sofia: CSKA SOFIA (Bulgaria) beat BAYERN MUNICH (West Germany) 4-3 (halftime 3-2).

In Birmingham — ASTON VILLA (England) beat ANDERLECHT (Belgium) 1-0 (halftime 1-0).

CUP WINNERS' CUP:
In Tbilisi: STANDARD LIEGE (Belgium) beat DYNAMO Tbilisi (Soviet Union) 1-0 (halftime 1-0).

In London — TOTTENHAM (England) and BARCELONA (Spain) drew 1-1 (halftime 0-0).

UEFA CUP
In Nis, RADNICKI NIS (Yugoslavia) beat HAMBURG (West Germany) 2-1 (halftime 0-1).

In Kaiserslautern: KAISERSLAUTERN (West Germany) 1 GOTHENBURG (Sweden) 1 (half-time 1-1).

Hamburg's important goal arrived in the 55th minute when midfielder Thomas van Hessen latched on to a cross from Jurgen Milewski to bullet home a superb header.

Van Hessen's effort means Radnicki, one of the dark horses of the competition, will have to produce a miracle to hold Hamburg in the second leg in two weeks' time.

Yet just four minutes earlier Yugoslav hopes were riding high when Sand Beganovic slammed home the opener from close range after Nidrag Stojiljkovic and Zoran Bojovitch had carved open the Hamburg defence.

Radnicki gained its slender first leg advantage when captain Milan Obradovic scored the second goal in the 75th minute after a brilliant solo run.

West Germany's Kaiserslautern, which crushed Spanish giant Real Madrid 6-3 in the last round, suffered a major setback when its was held to a 1-1 draw by Swedish league champion Gothenburg in their UEFA semi final in Kaiserslautern.

For Gothenburg, the result continued a great run in the competition. It has yet to be beaten in the current UEFA Cup campaign, winning six times and drawing three matches.

In earlier rounds, Gothenburg eliminated Valkeakosken Haka of Finland, Sturm Graz of Austria, Dynamo Bucharest of Romania and the 1980 European Cup-Winners' Cup victor, Valencia of Spain.

Kaiserslautern took the lead after 10 minutes when Erhard Hofeditz seized on a long through ball from Werner Meizer and gave Gothenburg goalkeeper Wernersson no chance with his shot.

The Swedes were rewarded with an equaliser in the 29th minute when Corneliusson wove his way through a slack defence to bury the ball in the German net.

near Toronto.

Two Dutch stars, both midfielders and both with AZ67, could be in English soccer next season. They are Jan Peters and Johnny Metgod. Peters, skipper of the club, finishes his contract soon and has been eyed by Arsenal and Wolves, while Metgod was a target for Everton when Holland recently played Scotland in Glasgow.

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May 2 D-day for Rasic and Jones

An interesting confrontation has sprung up in the NSW State League between coaches Mick Jones of Manly and Rale Rasic of Blacktown City.

Mick Jones has not hidden his anger at being released by Blacktown after he took it to a respectable position in the Phillips League in his debut season two years ago. Blacktown decided it did not want Jones after the season ended, preferring Rale Rasic who moved from Adelaide City to take up a part-time coaching position.

Jones, meanwhile, was left without a job and it was not till half way through the next season that a struggling Manly parted with its coach and took on Jones who is a local resident.

Mick Jones got Manly out of trouble and, aided by a few judicious signings such as Sydney City's Terry Smith, now has assembled a very strong squad which is challenging for top spot in the State league.

The ambitious Blacktown needs that top position more than Manly.

Rale Rasic also needs that top spot at the end of the season to answer those critics who say the fact that he has not been able to win a league title in well over a decade of coaching with top teams indicates a flaw in his coaching methods.

To date Rasic has been able to win Cup events fairly consistently, with success in Japan with St George and his World Cup qualification with Australia being his greatest achievements.

Chris Marustik, the 20-year-old full back of Swansea City, won his first cap for Wales against Spain after playing only 32 first team matches. Marustik, a former Welsh schoolboy and youth international, is the son of a Czech father.

Manchester United and West Bromwich Albion are both trying to lure Laurie Cunningham the England winger now with Real Madrid, back to U.K. Fee would be around \$1 million but Cunningham's terms would be the stumbling block. He is reputed to earn \$500,000 a year with Real.

Toronto Blizzard bossed by Bob Houghton, are expected to sign Manchester United and Northern Ireland defender Jimmy Nicholl for around \$500,000. Nicholl will virtually be returning home as he was born in Hamilton

championships but has not coached consistently as high a level as Rasic.

The big crunch for both coaches comes on Sunday May 2 at Cromer Park when Manly meets Blacktown City.

I know from conversations with Mick Jones that he has been looking forward to that confrontation for over a year.

He has a point he wants to prove to the Blacktown management.

This, on the other hand, is just the type of game for which Rale Rasic can be expected to build his team to a psychological high.

Both teams have some excellent players.

Paul Kirwan the Blacktown newcomer, a very dangerous winger, is able to "go at" players possibly better even than the diminutive South Melbourne attacker George Campbell.

Cliff Pointer, Robert Wheatley, keeper Bruce James, midfielders Harry Housseini and Stuart Selva are just some of the very good Blacktown players who I personally tip to win the State League.

On the other hand Falconer, Bobby Smith (like Terry, ex-Sydney City) striker Regan, utility player David Jack, plus the elegant Terry Smith are all class players backed up with solid aggression from sweeper



Mike Johnson

Doyle at the heart of the back four.

My Bankstown City team took a first half hammering from Blacktown and ended up losing 1-3, whereas we beat Manly 2-1 in an Ampol Cup game.

However I was very impressed with Manly that night and told Mick Jones that his team would definitely make the top four.

The Manly coach was even more confident.

He said: "I had a couple of good players out tonight. When we get them back I have a team that can win the league!"

May 2, at Cromer Park could have a big bearing on who will eventually take out the prestigious State league title.

Melita, Croatia and Riverwood will also have their own thoughts on that matter as all of them consider they have

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Christopoulos, Mitchell lead the star parade

By LAURIE SCHWAB

What a star-studded season it's turning out to be.

Let's look at some of the personalities who have set the Philips League buzzing.

● **DAVID MITCHELL**: Tall, lanky 19-year-old Soccerpro who reinforced Sydney City Hakoah's claim to a second successive title by transferring there from Adelaide City last week for \$30,000.

● **GEORGE CHRISTOPOULOS**: Back from England where he just failed to join Newcastle United, he finally got his transfer to Canberra last week at a fee of \$20,000 and looks set to lift Canberra rapidly up the table with those powerhouse goals he scored so regularly with South Melbourne Hellas before his move.

● **CHARLIE EGAN**: 1980 Victorian Rothmans Medalist with Frankston, Egan's lightning speed, turning ability and alertness in the penalty area sees him leading the PSL scorers' list with eight goals for South Melbourne Hellas.

● **DOUG BROWN**: Flamboyant, hard-running striker with tremendous flair and volatile personality, has helped inspire Makedonia's strong early-season run.

● **MARSHALL SOPER**: Picked up from the Newcastle area for a pittance by APIA, and now hailed as the finest central striker in the country.

● **PETER KATHOLOS**: A hit with the Soccerpro last year, now the key skill factor in the Sydney Olympic midfield, and also leader in "Soccer Action's" best player award.

● **NEIL MCGACHEY**: Returned from a year's absence to rejoin West Adelaide Hellas under new coach Alan Vest and has provided the inspiration and steady influence to once again make West Adelaide a feared team.

● **DES MARTON**: 38 goals in the NSW State League last year, and six for St George so far this year — all goals, cunning, experience and extraordinary ability.

● **ARNO BERTOOGNA**: Carried the Wollongong defence during the club's poor early run, and one of the inspirations of its recent rapid improvement, Bertogna can play centre back, full back, midfield or forward and surely must be recalled to the national squad when the new one is formed.

● **JIM CAMPBELL**: All-action forward or midfielder of Heidelberg-Alexander who is set to recapture his most brilliant form after Heidelberg's poor performances in its past two games.

● **RON MILLMAN**: One of the veterans of Brisbane Lions, he has lost none of his explosive speed, and he's been exploiting that speed to drive Lions further and further up the ladder with match-winning goals.

● **DUBRAVKO LEDIC**: Former Velzer Mostar captain who played his first game for Marconi last weekend. Much more from him yet!

But there are many more — Arthur Xanthopoulos and the revitalised Branko Buljevic of Hellas, Gary Cole and John Zyzendorn of Heidelberg, Ljube Petrovski, Rob Cullen and, when he's fit again, Claude Lucchesi of Makedonia; John Kosmina, Murray Barnes, Joe Watson, Ian Souness of Hakoah; Zoran Iliosi, Zdravko Lujic, Slobodan Jovanovic, Jim O'Reilly of J.U.S.T.; John Bray of APIA; Jimmy Redfern, Mark Koussas, Peter Raskopoulos of Olympic; Willie Conner and Joe Palinkas of Brisbane City; Roy Cotton and Phil O'Connor of Wollongong; Mark Barton and Peter Stone of St George; Paul Ontong, Gary Byrne and Ian Purdie of Canberra; Billy Williamson and Col Bennett of Lions and Tony Henderson, Mark Jankovics and Ian Hunter of Marconi.

Let's look at some of the clashes between the stars this coming Sunday.

Doug Brown will confront the 1981 Australian Player of the Year, Bobby Russell, in Makedonia's match against Adelaide City at Connor Reserve. What a battle that will be. Perhaps, if it comes out even, Makedonia will have to play instead on Gary Ward, Rob Cullen, or if he plays — finally — Lucchesi. Cullen and Ward, however, missed four easy chances between them against St George last week.

Marshall Soper v Jim Kondarios. This will be another titanic affair. Soper's been dynamite so far this year, but Kondarios is the most experienced stoppers in Australia. APIA however, will have an enormous advantage after the flare-up in the J.U.S.T. camp last Sunday (see page 7). And J.U.S.T. may not have a coach.

Mark Koussas v Peter Tokesi. Koussas is like a stick of dynamite in the penalty area — set to explode at any given moment with a spectacular goal. Tokesi, that fearsome, brawny, towering blond destroyer, eats forwards for breakfast.

Phil O'Connor v David Skeen: Wollongong's O'Connor will confront Rob O'Shea as much as he confronts Skeen, for O'Connor switches from side to side. But it is the clash with Skeen that will be most interesting, for Skeen, a highly underrated player, has turned his international experience with the Australian youth team into an uncanny ability to play a leading role in St George's build-ups from the back.

Gary Byrne v Steve Summer: This is the clash to end all clashes. Gary Byrne is one of Australia's most experienced midfield players and he's proved a brilliant buy for Canberra. Steve Summer is captain of the New Zealand national team, with countless caps under his belt. Byrne himself has been capped 24 times for Australia. Whether Canberra or West Adelaide wins will depend heavily on who has the better game in the middle of the midfield.

Alan Davidson v Jimmy Rooney? This one's just speculation. Davidson is due to return to the Hellas team after injury and if he takes up the right midfield position he held earlier, he will indeed be up against Heidelberg's Rooney, veteran of 90 games for Australia. On the other hand, Davidson could finish up playing right back, perhaps against Andrew Boziskas. A even could go down to the cleaners. He's the one to watch.

Joe Watson v Howard Trennick: Watson has been one of Hakoah's main driving forces since before the PSL started. Trennick, brother of Wollongong's Peter Tredinnick, was in the Australian youth team for the World Youth Championships last year. But what about David Mitchell and John Kosmina v John Snedden and Trevor Smythe, and peace Murray Barnes v Malcolm McClelland? Oh, what a team, this Hakoah!

Mark Jankovics v Col Bennett: Former Soccerpro team mates, both tall, both strong. Jankovics is Marconi's most important forward, but Bennett has won most battles this year, and Lions have the home ground advantage.

Enjoy it fans, there's much to enjoy!

IN MELBOURNE

South Melbourne Hellas v Heidelberg Alexander (draw) at Middle Park, Sunday, 3.30 pm.
PRESTON MAKEDONIA v Adelaide City at Connor Reserve, Sunday, 3 pm.

IN SYDNEY

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH v Newcastle KB at Sydney Athletic Field, Sunday, 3 pm.
APIA LEICHHARDT v Footscray J.U.S.T. at Lambert Park, Sunday, 3 pm.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v Brisbane City at Pratten Park, Sunday, 3 pm.
IN WOLLONGONG
Wollongong v ST GEORGE at Wollongong Showgrounds, Sunday, 3 pm.

IN ADELAIDE

West Adelaide Hellas v CANBERRA at Hindmarsh Stadium, Sunday, 2.30 pm.
IN BRISBANE
BRISBANE LIONS v Marconi at Richlands Stadium,

BARBARESSO

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PRESENTS

PHILIPS LEAGUE STANDINGS

Last week's standings in brackets.

HOME AWAY		W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Gls	Pts
1	(1) APIA-LEICHHARDT.....	3	1	0	9	4	3	1	1	10	5	19:9	14
2	(2) SYDNEY OLYMPIC.....	2	0	2	7	5	4	1	0	13	7	20:12	13
3	(6) ST.GEO.BUDAPEST.....	4	0	1	8	3	1	2	1	5	7	13:10	12
4	(3) SYDNEY C. HAKOAH.....	2	1	1	4	3	3	0	2	8	6	12:9	11
5	(7) Sth Melb. Hellas.....	3	2	0	10	3	1	2	2	8	9	18:12	10
6	(8) Brisbane Lions.....	2	1	1	12	7	1	3	1	6	6	18:13	10
7	(4) Preston Makedonia.....	2	2	1	9	3	1	2	2	5	8	14:11	10
8	(5) H'berg Alexander.....	3	1	1	8	5	1	1	2	4	4	12:9	10
9	(9) West Adel. Hellas.....	2	1	1	7	2	0	4	1	6	8	13:10	9
10	(10) Marconi Datsun.....	3	1	1	10	5	0	1	3	1	7	11:12	8
11	(11) Wollongong.....	2	0	2	6	8	2	0	3	5	10	12:18	8
12	(14) Canberra City.....	2	1	2	8	7	0	2	2	4	9	12:16	7
13	(12) Brisbane City.....	2	3	0	9	6	0	0	4	1	14	10:20	7
14	(13) Adel. C. Juventus.....	1	2	2	7	7	0	1	3	3	7	10:14	5
15	(15) Newcastle KB Utd.....	1	2	2	6	8	0	1	3	3	9	9:17	5
16	(16) Footscray JUST.....	0	4	1	6	7	0	1	3	2	10	8:17	5

PSL TEAM OF THE WEEK

Total appearances in brackets

WISHART (1)
(Brisb.C)

PETROVSKI (3)
(Makedonia)

VLIESTRA (1)
(Wollongong)

T. BYRNE (1)
(Canberra)

SKEEN (1)
(St. George)

KATHOLOS (5)
(Syd Olymp)

PHILIPS (1)
(Syd. Olymp)

PIMBLETT (1)
(Brisb. City)

MARTON (3)
(St. George)

HOGG (1)
(Brisb.Lions)

MILLMAN (2)
(Brisb Lions)

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Olympic delights record crowd

Marconi 2 Olympic 3

Scorers: Redfern 2, Koussas (SO); Jankovic, Calderan (M).
Ground: Marconi Stadium.
MARCONI: Maher 5, Bozanic 7, Prskalo 7, Calderan 7, Budini 6, Henderson 6 (Picioane 74'), Letic 6, Silva 6, Hunter 7, Jankovic 7, Licata 6.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Wilson 7, Rogers 6, Ziras 7, Rowden 7, Scott 7, Raskopoulos 8, Katholos 8, Phillips 9, Redfern 8, Koussas 6, Jennings 6.

Sydney Olympic returned to Marconi stadium, their mid-week Ampol Cup clash spot, to completely dominate proceedings against the home team and take two points before the biggest ever crowd at Bosley Park.

Almost 11,000 people filled the terraces at Marconi, with Olympic's support easily outnumbering their Marconi counterparts. In an almost festive atmosphere, the game was delayed by almost eight



Alex Vesic

minutes, due to the fact that hundreds of spectators were still outside the ground, trying to get in.

Announcements were made in English, Italian and Greek about the delay only adding to this colourful atmosphere.

The game itself was played in the same friendly spirit, with a sprinkling of tough encounters which never went beyond the limits. It was hard to understand the flashing of two yellow cards (Letic and Bozanic), four fouls which were far less damaging or for that reason outside the law, than most during the game.

Letic received his yellow card only a few minutes after

the start to open his Australian career on a sour note, while Bozanic was booked after 57 minutes. Both fouled Koussas.

Olympic raced into an early lead following a goal by Koussas but one could not help feeling that Alan Maher aided and abetted Koussas. Gary Phillips found Koussas on the edge of the box and the nippy Olympic striker turned, hitting the ball low, but very close to Maher. It appeared that the ball slid under the goalkeeper's body, giving it a "soft" look.

Raskopoulos almost made it 2-0 a few minutes later, then Letic started a move at the other end which found Hunter heading into space for Jankovic to run through Bob Wilson, but also the cross-bar.

Katholos broke through in the 19th minute but his shot from an angle was well saved by Maher, then a few minutes later Koussas headed just past the post from a cross by Andy Scott.

In the 24th minute and against the run of play Marconi struck following a superb run by Licata. Budini's pass found Licata on the left flank racing for the ball with Rogers. The Marconi winger easily outpaced the Olympic fullback then crossed for Jankovic to nudge the ball into the net from close range.

With 15 minutes to go in the first half, Ziras collected the long goal kick by Maher, then pushed the ball neatly to Phillips whose cross found an unmarked Jimmy Redfern close to the Marconi goal line. A first time shot followed and Maher was beaten again.

Close to half time Olympic missed a couple of good opportunities with Koussas, then Redfern missed from close range.

Olympic dominated the second half, and looked the likely winner all the way despite the closeness of the score. Mark Koussas came close again in the 68th minute from a cross by Katholos, then Jimmy Redfern almost broke through with Marconi's defence having to struggle to stop the enthusiastic Olympic forwards.

Tony Henderson, having one of his off days, was replaced in the 74th minute by Picioane, and Marconi almost equalised a minute later. Ian Hunter and Mark Jankovic found themselves in a two on one situation with Ziras to beat but muffed the opportunity.

At the other end Olympic was not so generous. A corner kick by Peter Katholos was headed goalwards by Ian Rowden and with Alan Maher out of his goal and in "no man's land", Budini had to use his hands to stop the ball crossing the line. Jimmy Redfern scored from the resultant penalty to make it 3-1.

Calderon cut Olympic's lead with a great header following a corner kick by Hunter, but that was as far as the locals could manage on the day. The end result was a flattering one for the home side as Olympic looked for most of the match a much better unit, with mid-field duo Raskopoulos and Katholos easily shading their opposition. Gary Phillips showed some superb touches and was my choice for the man of the match, with Katholos and Raskopoulos coming a close second and third.

MITCHELL SENT OFF, THOMPSON BLASTS NUGENT

Canberra 2 Sydney C 0

Scorers: McLaren 60th, Cant own goal 81st.
Venue: Bruce Stadium.
Crowd: 3100.
Cautions: Kosmina, Souneas, Mullen (SC), T. Byrne, Christopoulos, Stone (Can).
Sent off: Mitchell (SC) 85th.
Referee: David Nugent 3.

CANBERRA CITY: Hoszowski 8 - Ambrosino 7, Milovanovic 8, T. Byrne 8, Moutsopoulos 7 - Christopoulos 7, G. Byrne 7, Stone 7 - McLaren 9 (Purdie 75th), Gibson 7, Brennan 7.

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH: Clarke 7 - Mullen 8, O'Connor 7, Robertson 7, Cant 7 - Padukas 7, Souneas 7 (Borgos 7, 45th), Spanos 7 - Wilson 8, Kosmina 8, Mitchell 7 (sent off 85th).

Six players were shown yellow cards and one was sent



Peter Windsor

off when Canberra City dramatically defeated third-placed Sydney City 2-0 at Bruce Stadium.

The heavy hand of Queensland referee David Nugent robbed the game of much of its excitement and prompted Sydney City's coach, Eddie Thomson to comment: "It was the worst exhibition of refereeing I have ever witnessed."

"After today the advantage rule must be a thing of the past."

Nugent gave yellow cards to Canberra's Terry Byrne,

George Christopoulos and Ian Stone and Sydney City's Ian Souneas, John Kosmina and Kevin Mullen.

And then, with just five minutes remaining, he sent off Sydney City's \$30,000 new signing David Mitchell after a scuffle with Canberra's Terry Byrne.

It was a tragic end for the big striker who missed an early goal scoring chance and generally failed to impress in his debut.

The best game when live wire forward John Kosmina found Jimmy Cant unmarked with a neat back pass.

Cant had room and time but delayed his attempt and Canberra's goal keeper Steve Hoszowski smothered the shot by diving bravely at Cant's

feet to pull off a superb save.

Six minutes later Canberra's skipper Terry Byrne misjudged a back pass and the ever-ready Mitchell pounced, but Hoszowski was ready and saved brilliantly by diving low.

From then on Canberra gathered momentum and it was Sydney City who back pedalled.

Without Boden and Barnes its midfield was ineffective.

After a scoreless first half the deadlock was broken in the 60th minute when Canberra's Tony Brennan crossed from the left flank and found Don MacLaren unmarked.

MacLaren rounded a defender and sent slickers goal keeper Todd Clarke the wrong way with a close-range ground shot.

The game was put beyond doubt nine minutes from full time when Cant's back pass caught Clarke unawares and floated into the net.

Makedonia misses four open goals

By TED SIMMONS

St George 2 Makedonia 0

ST GEORGE: M. Fraser 8, D. Skeen 8, R. O'Shea 7, M. Barton 7, D. Ratcliffe 7, H. O'Shea 7, R. Slater 7, P. Stone 8, P. Wilkinson 7, J. O'Shea 7, D. Marton 9 (Griffiths 87th).

MAKEDONIA: R. Wilson 7, G. Fox 6, S. Bosch 7, D. Brown 6, P. Boyle 7, A. Whitby 7, G. Cullen 8, L. Flavell 7, G. McKillen 6, L. Petrovski 8, G. Ward 7 (Ollerton 68th).

Referee: Gary Power 7.
Ground: St George Stadium.
Scorers: Barton (4th), J. O'Shea (75th).

The scoreline at the finish should have read Preston 4 St George 2, but only official goals count so St George grabbed two points because they put the ball away twice.

Preston dismissed the "defensive" tag they have been stuck with for away games by launching into open attacking football for the entire 90 minutes and only the wayward boots of Gary Ward and

Robbie Cullen cost them the match.

Ward and Cullen shared four unbelievable open chances, and managed to knock each shot wide or over the bar.

St George wasted no times getting into the action and were in the lead after four minutes. Der Marton, the best player for the day, tantalised his way along the right wing and crossed perfectly to Mark Barton who neatly headed past NZ keeper Richard Wilson.

Marton struck again in the 23rd minute and 29th minutes those pinpoint crosses but Wilson kept the finishing touches out. Preston's first big chance to equalise came in the 33rd minute when Ward smashed a direct shot at St George keeper Mike Fraser and the ball rebounded to Cullen eight metres from the goal. He missed it completely.

Five minutes later it was Ward's turn with Fraser out of position but the simple header

glanced on to the upright and was scrambled away for a corner.

St George had taken charge of the first half, with David Skeen and Peter Stone pushing the ball to Marton and Barton, who were carving holes in the midfield.

Ljube Petrovski carried Preston into attack in the second half in an opening five minutes which had Fraser tipping out a drive and three consecutive corners, and culminated with Ward facing another empty goal only to blow the ball high over the bar.

St George's forgotten striker, Paul Wilkinson, who had been laying off some excellent passes unselfishly, had his chance in the 60th minute but his header went straight to Wilson.

It looked like being 1-1 five minutes later when Cullen latched on to a pass, rounded Skeen, drew Fraser out of goal and then sailed around him with the open net a mere five

metres away. He sliced the ball to the right of the post with a look of utter disbelief on his face.

After that St George just had to win and in the 75th minute John O'Shea sealed the match, thanks to another piece of generosity from Preston.

Marton took a corner from the left and the long ball went to the far corner of the goal area where George McMillan tried to head it clear. Instead, he headed it into the goal area where O'Shea merely had to touch it over the line.

St George coach Frank Ark was quite relieved after it was all over.

"Preston are a very capable side, who played open, attacking football. I thought Cullen was their danger man, but can't believe how they missed so many from so close."

St George players made a special presentation to each member of the Preston team before play started to mark the first occasion of the two teams meeting in the League.

Mitchell's absence hits Adelaide City hard

Bris. Lions 2 Adel. City 0

Scorers: Millman 4th, 44th.
Crowd: 3100.
Ground: Olympic Sports Field.

Cautions: Northcote (City); Burns (Lions).
Referee: Jim Rossis 9.
ADELAIDE CITY: McNally 1 - Russell 6 (Rankin 46th, 6), B. Nyskohus 8, Flinders 7, Dods 7 - Mella 6, Bainfield 7, Marocchi 6 - Nyskohus 7, Northcote 7, Villani 7.

BRISBANE LIONS: Lowndes 8 - McKinnell 7, Foris 8, Bennett 8, Niven 7, MacLenn 7 (Low 78th) Burns 7, Hogg 8 - Williamson 7, Daunt 7, Millman 8.

Adelaide City lost this game three days before when David Mitchell was transferred to Sydney City.

Without the big striker City hardly posed any problems to Brisbane Lions which struck twice in the first half and then relaxed after half time.

Mitchell's loss must be covered soon if City is to save this season. But the club will be hard



Meno Toutsidis

pressed to find an adequate replacement.

He not only scored three goals from a handful of games and laid on at least three others, but invariably brought players into the game.

This on-field inspiration was missing against Lions which did not play particularly well, but good enough to secure both points.

Ron Millman gave Lions a dream start when he had the simple task of heading in a lob by Steve Hogg who had beaten City goalkeeper Willie McNally to a long, bouncing ball.

The Lions defence was called on to perform some cleaning up operations on the edge of the penalty on a few occasions, but goalkeeper

Nigel Lowndes, for most of the first half, soaked up the sun without worrying about such mundane things like keeping his goals intact.

The only occasion he was kept on his toes was when Glen Dods, City's best player, surged forward from midfield to strike a sparkling shot just wide of target.

Millman put Lions two goals ahead when he pounced on a rebound from a Calvin Daunt shot and whipped it past McNally seconds before half time.

Two goals have made Millman the club's leading scorer since the PSL kicked-off in 1977.

He has 19 goals, including six for the season, while Alan Hughes, now with Leichhardt, netted 15 goals in his time with the club, and Billy Williamson has 14 goals.

The second half was played at a leisurely pace and the players showed as much interest as the fans.

Only in the final 10 minutes did City force the pace with John Nyskohus testing Lowndes with a superb shot

after a Gary Marocchi free kick had been blocked.

Earlier Brian Northcote struck a fine volley from the edge of the penalty area, but Lowndes did well to stop it.

The defeat has now cast big doubts on the future of City coach Bob D'Ottavi who has guided City to its worst start in the PSL.

But City president Lou Ravesi said in the club's program that D'Ottavi would remain as coach until the end of the season.

There is no such worry in the Brisbane Lions camp. The club is entrenched in the upper half of the league and if it continues to show good away form it may well be knocking on the door of the top four at the end of the season.

Lions defence, with Col Bennett again in supreme form, was almost impregnable, though City's attack of course lacked bite.

The midfield performed well with Steve Hogg involved in many of Lions attacks.

Indeed, Lions played well as a unit and coach Matt Gilroy understandably had a wide smile after the match.

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Carrizo sparks Croatia victory

By Alex Vesic

Last year's State League premiers, Croatia, completely outplayed Sydney Olympic, the glamor side of this year's PSL competition, to win their Ampol Cup quarter-final contest at Marconi Stadium last Wednesday night.

Raul Carrizo, the star of Marconi in its inaugural PSF year, returned to the Marconi ground, this time as a Croatia player to spearhead his team to a well-deserved victory.

His interception of a back pass by Andy Scott in the 67th minute was typical of every effort all his team mates put on that night. His execution of a chance was reminiscent of the days when Carrizo was one of the best in the country.

Olympic, minus Jennings and Raskopoulos, had no answer to Croatia's tenacity and enthusiasm, and with the exception of the last 20 minutes, they were always going to lose.

In the other quarter-final game, St George, minus eight first graders, easily defeated Melita Eagles by three goals to nil, with Paul Wilkinson, one of the first graders, scoring two superb goals and Dennis Duarte one.

Next time the Ampol Cup saga will continue at Marconi Stadium, with Marconi playing St George in one semi-final and Croatia playing Blacktown in the other. This will ensure a place for a State League club in the final.

**Croatia 1
Sydney Olympic 0**

Score: Raul Carrizo
Crowd: 3160
Referee: Brian Fowler
CROATIA: Watson, Woods, L. Sterry, Coleman, Vidler, G. Sterry, Tony Rezo, Saver, Carrizo, Coyne, David Rezo.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier, Rogers, Scott, Rowden, Zina, Wilson, Redfern, (Akouas 60'), Phillips, Koussas, Kotholos, Gavin (Townsend 60').

There were cries of "we wuz robbed" after this quarter-final battle ended at Marconi Stadium. Chris Townsend appeared to have scored a perfectly good goal, but the referee, Brian Fowler disallowed

it for offside by another player from Olympic. In fact the player was on the ground, hurt and unable to move, but the referee decided that he was interfering with play and that was it.

With four minutes of the game remaining it was Sterry, Croatia's saviour at the back, who lunged at the ball on the goal line to kick an overhead against the crossbar and out to safety. There were claims that the ball had crossed the line and even ones which suggested that the ball had hit the net and bounced out. I went to Marconi's ground the following day to conduct an experiment and tried desperately to get the ball to bounce out of the net with no luck at all.

So much for that argument! Still, all credit to those who admitted that Olympic played badly and deserved to lose. For that is a fair description of this quarter-final.

Olympic missed Raskopoulos and Jennings, but Croatia looked completely decimated in comparison with Olympic. They had no less than SIX INJURED players unable to play in this match. Missing were Tomasich, Steven, M. Kovacic, Hensman, Trenter and Pagano.

However, led by Kevin Coleman, Croatia excelled to dominate proceedings with some very tight "man to man marking" and some very fast counter attacking football.

Wally Saver almost put Croatia in to the lead after seven minutes after rounding Wilson on the edge of the box, but the final shot skipped past the post.

Then came the evergreen Raul Carrizo. In the 13th minute he pinched the ball from Ziras, then raced into the area to face Meier before blasting the ball over the bar. Two minutes later Carrizo was in the action again, pinching



NSW AMPOL CUP

the right, floated the ball, over to the far post, but Andy Scott failed to control the ball and it bounced harmlessly into the keeper's arms.

With ten minutes to go all hell broke loose as Olympic "scored" through Chris Townsend. The ball entered the net from an acute angle on the left hand side with an Olympic player sprawled on the ground injured in an off-side position but away from the action, or as the good book says, "not interfering with play" or "not trying to gain an advantage".

However, the goal was disallowed. Townsend unleashed the

best drive of the match some two minutes later but Watson, yet again, made a miraculous save to keep Olympic out.

Then came yet another controversy, with Sterry's clearance from the goal line. This tall defender lunged at the ball which appeared destined to bounce over the line to hit an overhead kick against the crossbar and out.

**St George 3
Melita Eagles 0**

Score: Wilkinson 2, Duarte 1
Crowd: 3160
Referee: Brian Fowler
ST GEORGE: Greedy, Sheen, Terry, J. O'Shea, McDonald,

Duarte, Davies, Rylands, Wilkinson, (Marion 76'), Campbell, Griffith
MELITA EAGLES: McPherson, Anandiah, Daley, Battalio, R. McPherson, Pabon 76', Farrugia (Marion 76'), Williams, Jamieson, Vial, Cross, Budini.

From the moment Duarte scored in the second minute Melita looked doomed to lose against an under strength St George side. No less than seven regular first graders were missing, including two O'Shea brothers, Stone, Fraser, Ratcliffe, Barton and Marton (who came on for Wilkinson in the last 14 minutes).

Melita could have equalised in the 23rd minute after Richie Williams robbed Rylands, then raced into the area before hitting a low cross which flew across the goals and straight through the legs of Mike Cross, who was only two metres away from the line.

St George appeared more positive and a metre faster than their opponents. Whilst they held territorial advantage during the first half, their second half effort was even better.

Slowly but surely they had Melita pinned back. Wilkinson hit the post with his header following a corner kick in the 55th minute, then the same player scored two quick goals in the space of three minutes.

Campbell was impeded in the 73rd minute just outside the area and Salts were awarded a free kick. John O'Shea touched the ball for Paul Wilkinson to slam a low drive which sneaked inside the near post for Salts to go into a 2-0 lead.

Three minutes later it was again Paul Wilkinson capitalised on some good work by Billy Griffith.

Manly-Warringah continues to dominate the NSW State League following its resounding 5-0 win over Yugal. Manly raced to 3-0 lead at half time with goals by Doyle, Noble and Stuart, then polished off helpless Yugal by scoring two more goals in the second half through Terry Smith and then again Gary Noble.

It was by far the most impressive performance of the round, with Manly's attack as well as its defence on top throughout.

Croatia scored a goal in each half through Raul Carrizo to keep in touch with Manly, while Blacktown Demons returned to the winning list at the expense of Sutherland at the Gabbie Stadium.

Riverwood just slipped Blacktown to hold onto third spot while Melita Eagles slipped after their 0-0 against Auburn at Melita Stadium. At the bottom of the table and against all pre-season odds is Avala, following their fifth straight loss.

Avala's problems are multiplied following the loss of Eddie Patterson for the next round. He was sent off the field in a game against Rockdale, leaving his side to battle it out with 10 men for most of the match.

**Manly 5
Yugal 0**

Score: Noble 2, Doyle, Stuart, T. Smith.
Manly: Ellis, K. Falconer, Doyle, Dick, Goehnen, Noble, Lock, P. Falconer, T. Smith (85'), Van Heiden, Regan, Stuart.
YUGAL: Barry, Rendell, Dinley, McIntosh, Augustino, Stanning, Mihajlovic, Travlin (66' Cunningham), Rodas (72' Pahori), Rokodero, Tanovski.

The game opened at a furious pace with Yugal on top controlling the midfield and looking the more likely side to score first. They had Manly back pedalling and forced a Manly scored against the run of play.

It was from the first corner kick by Manly, taken by Peter Falconer, that Manly scored.

NSW STATE LEAGUE

Round 6

MELITA EAGLES - AU-BURN 1-1, Holloway (A), Williams (ME).

ROCKDALE ILINDEN - AVALA 2-0, Youseph, Sultana.

MANLY WARRINGAH - YUGAL 5-0, Noble 2, Doyle, Stuart, Smith.

BLACKTOWN - SUTHERLAND 2-1, Kirwan, Jones (BD), Hensman (S).

RIVERWOOD - BANKSTOWN 3-2, Parker, Jones, Walker (R), Sirett, Nocera (B).

CROATIA - JM UNITED 2-0, Carrizo 2.

CANTERBURY - POLONIA 0-0.

Top scorers:
5. Sultana (RI).
4. Lembray (Av), Kirwan (BD), Regan (MW), Jones (BD), 3. Nocera (B), Jones (BD), R. Brown (CM), Stuart, Noble (MW), Williams, Farrugia, Budini (ME).

Regan met Falconer's corner to hit the crossbar, and Doyle picked up the rebound to score.

Yugal continued to attack and almost scored in the 23rd minute when David Travlin rounded Geoghean, then unleashed a powerful drive which beat Ellis but hit the underside of the crossbar and went out.

While Yugal attacked, their defence seemed vulnerable and in the 36th minute Manly exploited a huge gap in the middle of that defence to score.

A clearance from Manly's defence was well controlled by Terry Smith before a pinpoint pass was delivered for Gary Noble to run onto and score. With three minutes remaining

Manly Warringah 4 1 0 14 1 8
Croatia 4 0 1 11 6 8
Melita Eagles 2 3 0 12 5 7
Blacktown Demons 3 1 1 12 9 7
Rockdale Ilinden 2 2 1 9 9 8
Sutherland 2 1 2 8 6 5
Canterbury 1 2 1 5 5 4
Polonia 2 1 2 6 12 5
Yugal 1 1 2 2 4 4
Bankstown 1 1 3 8 11 3
JM United 1 0 4 6 14 2
Avala 0 1 4 2 10 1
Avala 0 0 5 5 15 0

2. Wilmoth (B), Trenter, Hensman, Carrizo (Cr), Johns, Link (JM), T. Smith (MW), Allan (ME), Parker (Riv), Bush, Grooms (SI), Mihajlovic, Rokodero (Y).

First Division: Dee Why - Parramatta 2-0; Balmore - Revesby 1-1; Kuringal - F. Meadow 1-0; Warringah - Gladesville 4-1; Blacktown Utd - Bathurst 3-2; Wollongong Utd - Unifon NSW 1-0; Penrith - North Bankstown 2-1.

**Blacktown 2
Sutherland 1**

Score: Kirwan, Jones (BD), Hensford.
BLACKTOWN: Freeman, Rasmussen (Pointer 20'), Quernby, Brogan, Whalley, Selva, Housell, Kratic (Schilling 70'), Jones, Johnston, Kirwan.
SUTHERLAND: Haynes, Hensford, Cashman, Harrington, (Wet), Sutherland, Scherlagge, Webster, Meades, Grooms, T. Bush, Murphy (Hitchin).

An uninspired encounter at the Gabbie saw Blacktown Demons take two points thanks to two fine second half goals by Kirwan and Jones to keep close to the leaders in the State League.

Sutherland appeared to have the better of play during the first half but should have been a goal down after 25 minutes. Stuart Johnston missed with his penalty kick, letting the Sharks off the hook.

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My letter this week comes from Trevor James who asks: 1. Do you think that the increase in the size of the State and Metropolitan Leagues will benefit soccer? 2. Could 1983 see the regionalisation in the National League, even if Phillips continues its support of soccer? 3. Is it true that the 1983 soccer season will be covered by commercial television?

In answer to your first question, Trevor, let me say that the increase from 12 to 14 teams effects the Provisional League as well as the State and Metropolitan Leagues.

I think there are pros and cons to this change. Firstly it obviously means more teams and more games. This can be good or bad depending on your views. To me it doesn't seem such a good idea because it means our dwindling numbers of supporters will be stretched even thinner and financially many of our clubs cannot afford this.

It also means an extra drain on referees. Unfortunately there just aren't enough good ones to go around. Let me say that I sympathise with referees. There is not a happy lot. They will never ever be right in everyone's eyes.

On many occasions they are escorted from the field to save them from the wrath of angry

supporters, yet these men appear week in week out, the masochists that they are.

Having said that I think the standard of refereeing needs an almighty shot in the arm. I have witnessed three or four metropolitan league games this year and in two of these games the refereeing was a joke. This takes away from the games.

On the plus side the V.S.F. has used the reshuffle to advance teams like Morwell Falcons. This is a plus for Victorian soccer because we need clubs with the Falcons' go ahead outlook. Their facilities at Morwell are second to none and their club rooms are tremendous.

Also on the plus side is the fact that more teams means more places for our youngsters to aim for. This is very important. Our juniors who

sponsorship which means that another large sponsor needs to be found.

Regionalisation then seems the answer with national play-offs at the end of the season. How the regions will be divided and what other teams may be involved is the topic for another article.

It has been rumoured for some time that 1983 will see a commercial T.V. station covering the National League. I don't know whether this is true or not, but if it is it could well be the National League's saviour. Phillips may be inclined to stay in and increase their sponsorship if they can see rewards in advertising. If they don't I'm sure another large company will.

A wonder what channel will take on the task. I remember a few years ago when Kerry Packer's channel 9 wanted to cover the soccer but the A.S.F. was apparently because Mr Packer wanted too much control over the game. However if it is Mr Packer who is interested then I hope we don't let him get away again.

Regardless of whether you are a purist or a rebel and love or hate World Series Cricket one thing cannot be denied - the coverage of the game is superb. That type of professionalism and promotion could well be the shot in the arm that the game of soccer needs.

Regionalisation seems certain

GARY COLE

Any questions? Gary Cole will answer them. Write to him C/-Soccer Action, 603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, Vic.

progress into teenagers used to see that they have a chance of a place in the senior sides.

If they don't see a chance then so many of them give the game away at 15 or 16. There are definitely points for and against, but at a time when soccer world wide - not just here in Australia - is struggling it seems ridiculous to increase the number of teams playing, which only heightens the problems being faced here and elsewhere.

In answer to the second question I would say, yes, 1983 could well see the regionalisation of the National League.

The costs involved in staging the league are enormous, mainly due to airfares, and Phillips have already stated that they won't increase their



supporters, yet these men appear week in week out, the masochists that they are.

Having said that I think the standard of refereeing needs an almighty shot in the arm. I have witnessed three or four metropolitan league games this year and in two of these games the refereeing was a joke. This takes away from the games.

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Croatia, Juventus battle for State League Supremacy

Latif deadly, Kokoska returns



Croatia's brilliant forward David Brogan.

Juventus will win

By BERNIE SANTAMARIA,
Juventus president

This game is very decisive for the title prospects of both clubs.

I see Juventus, Green Gully Ajax, Croatia, Sunshine and Hellas-Hakoah as the best teams in the State League. I'll be happy quite frankly if Juventus makes the top four. If we win the championship then it will be a bonus.

Getting to the top will entice the Italian community to get back behind the club just like in the glory days of the old Juventus.

I think we'll beat Croatia. I recognise that Croatia is a fine team but at the end of the day I think we'll be successful.

The key to our side this year is team spirit. The enthusiasm among the players is tremendous. Take Paddy Bannon for example. He's running around like a 21 year old.

All of our players recognise the importance of what we are trying to do to rebuild Juventus. They are proud to be a part of the revival.

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Can Juventus confirm the conjecture that it has been reborn as one of the forces of Victoria's State League when it tackles mighty Melbourne Croatia at Olympic Park's No. 1 ground on Sunday?

Yes. The black and whites can do it.

But before the Italian soccer community gets carried away in the euphoria of recent weeks let me say quite clearly that I expect Croatia to edge out Juve on Sunday.

I believe though, that the intensity of competition and the closely fought nature of Sunday's showdown will irrevocably establish Juventus as a serious contender for championship glory in 1982. Juve is back, and back with a bang. You'd better believe it!

I'm still to be convinced that Croatia has recaptured the organisation and quality of possession play it displayed in the halcyon days of player-coach John Gardiner but it looks to have too many fine players to fail on Sunday.

Young Ossie Latif has about 7,000 reasons to make a name for himself in the State League.

I had my reservations about paying out big money for a teenager from the local scene but by I'm starting to realise that Latif potentially is one of the most explosive strikers in the game.

I expect him to make a major impact on the Victorian youth team at the national titles and it shouldn't be too long before PSL club presidents are ringing up Croatia boss Joe Sigur to have a chat about the former Kellor Austria striker.

Juventus has shown interest in signing Heidelberg stopper Bob Provan. It also made tentative enquiries to Hellas-Hakoah about big Anton Dosen.

As we went to press we believed that Peter Donaldson once again would line up at centre half for Juventus in Sydney's game.

Donaldson did a fine job containing Green Gully Ajax spearhead Gus Macleod two weeks ago and could find himself given the job of taming David Brogan.

If so, it wouldn't surprise to see Frank Geremia given the huge task of tagging little Latif. Geremia stuck close to Ajax's elusive Gordon Wallace during Juve's memorable 2-1 win.

Steve Kokoska should be fit and raring to go. He's been absent from the Croatia line-up for two weeks but his presence could make or break Croatia on Sunday.

Big "Butch" is the ideal man to take care of either Graham French or former Heidelberg striker Joe McGrory. The Juventus pair won't beat Kokoska in the air, that's for sure.

It will be interesting to see whether Juventus coach Tony Boggi uses both French and McGrory. They seem too similar to play together. It's hard to envisage one being used as a target man and the other working off of him.

If both play up front then Boggi may use just three in midfield with Geremia and Donaldson as markers, and Paddy Bannon sweeping up.

Tony Curcio, bought from Juventus for about \$3,000 two weeks ago, suddenly finds himself pitted against his old club.

It's mere conjecture, because the Juventus camp is keeping tight lipped, but should Boggi use five at the back, three in midfield and two up front, then Curcio probably will run into the left flanking midfielder, Fabio Incantalupo.

The other possibility for Boggi probably would be to use his two fullbacks as markers for Brogan and Ken Murphy, put Donaldson onto Latif and use three in midfield and three up front.



Croatia's Steve Kokoska gets to the ball ahead of Justin Fashanu in a State game against Norwich City.

CROATIA HAS THE SKILL

By JOE SIGUR,
Croatia president

This game between two undefeated teams should be close but if you go through our side, player by player, you will see that we are better than Juventus.

Juventus though has the experience. Croatia has the talent.

We have the players to do the job and I think we will beat Juventus.

I'm a bit worried about Steve Kokoska. I hope he's fit for Sunday.

We have a couple of star players not quite at their top. I'm talking about Jeff Faulkner and Kenny Murphy. These two are among the best players in the State League, no doubt about that and I'm sure that they will prove that on Sunday.

Ossie Latif has become very important to Croatia. He's scoring every week and he has a tremendous shot. We must give him more of the ball.

It's not going to be easy against Juventus. They'll be keen to do well, especially against us but we can't afford to lose so early in the season. It's important for us to do well. We'll win.

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CROATIA

v

BRUNSWICK



JUVENTUS

at

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(No1)

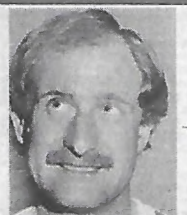
Sunday 18 April
3 pm

Macleod back to face 'Cross

As Green Gully Ajax battles against time to shorten its injury least before Sunday's big Maltese derby against George Cross at St Albans it can take heart from the probable availability of bustling, aggressive striker Gus Macleod.

Macleod, sent off against Hellas-Hakoah at the weekend, served his automatic one-match suspension by missing Ajax's Dockerty Cup clash with Richmond on Monday. The VSF tribunal won't sit in judgement of whether or not Macleod deserves a longer suspension until next Wednesday night so the big man looks set to lead Ajax's assault on its arch enemy on Sunday.

The dressing room at Green Gully Reserve easily could double for a waiting room at a doctor's surgery. Talk about the walking wounded!



Gus Macleod

The State League champion has been hit by injury worries to an extent unequalled since its inclusion in the league in 1977.

Even though Macleod probably will play against George Cross he spent most of Sunday's game against Hellas-Hakoah hobbling about with a bad leg injury. He's a tough customer though and Ajax's committee and supporters are keeping their fingers crossed that one of their favorite sons



Bobby Toal

will make Sunday's starting line-up. Coach Bobby McLachlan's problems are far from solved should Macleod play.

Sweeper John Gardiner is carrying a shoulder injury and won't be at peak fitness for another three weeks. He played against Hellas-Hakoah because of the club's other injury worries.

Gardiner carried a groin injury for about five weeks before injuring his shoulder recently.

Star recruit David Smallman still is nursing a badly bruised ankle, a legacy of his trip to Centenary Park three weeks ago.

Gordon Wallace is struggling to throw off a hamstring injury and midfielder Kit Grechan is making slow progress after a knee operation.

Wallace didn't play last Sunday. Grechan had a run in the reserves but still is sore once he cools down and is far from free in his running action.

Dashing striker Paul Lewis has been carrying an injury. He could train only lightly before last Sunday's game and a knock early in the game did little to ease the doubts over his injury.

George Cross looks like having a full squad from which to select its gladiators for Sunday's derby.

Cross is showing keen interest in a winger with a rival State League club but president Alf Zahra refused to reveal his name while tentative negotiations continue.

Tassie star turns down PSL

WALTER PLESS

Few players would turn down the chance of a trial with a Phillips League club. Neil Thomas, the 21-year-old Croatia-Glenorchy striker-cum-midfielder is one who did.

West Adelaide-Hellas offered Thomas a trial before the start of the season but he turned it down. "I've got too many ties here to do anything about it. I don't really want to go away. I couldn't see any point in going over for a trial if I wasn't prepared to go over if I was accepted." He is getting married in a few weeks' time and has just built a house. This partly may explain his decision.

Thomas's credentials are certainly good. He was Croatia's 'best and fairest' last season, and its top goalscorer. He was in the Tasmanian 'State of Origin' squad against South Mel-

bourne-Hellas and is in this year's squad for the game against the Australian Institute of Sport team.

Thomas represented Tasmania as a junior at all levels but soccer almost lost out to Australian Football and baseball. He represented Southern Tasmania in football and the State in baseball and was, at one time, considering concentrating on baseball.

He started playing senior soccer with South Hobart when only 14. He won two 'best and fairest' awards and usually was the club's top marksman. A transfer to White Eagles and a higher standard was almost inevitable but he wore the Polish club's colors for only a season. This year will be his third with Croatia.

Thomas admits to being difficult to motivate. "I need to be pushed. I can't go out and play against a mediocre team and put 100 per cent into the game. I've got to go out against a team of high standard and then I'll put everything in because then I've got a goal to aim for. Against a weaker side you tend not to put everything into the game."



Neil Thomas

Hellas-Hakoah to triumph

STATE LEAGUE LADDER

	W	D	L	F	Pts
JUVENTUS	2	0	0	4	6
CROATIA	2	1	0	4	5
GE-AJAX	2	1	1	2	4
GEA CROSS	2	1	1	0	3
Hellas-Hakoah	2	1	1	0	3
Polonia	2	0	1	1	3
Sunshine	1	2	0	1	3
Albion R.	1	1	1	1	3
Marwell F.	1	1	1	0	3
Croydon	1	0	2	1	2
Norhtcote	1	0	2	0	2
Frankton	0	2	2	0	1
Doveton	0	0	3	1	0
Wilhelmina	0	0	3	0	0



Victorian State League with CRAIG MACKENZIE

	R'wood v Albion	N'cote v H-Hak	Doves v Croydon	Ajax v G. Cross	Croatia v Juve	Polonia v M Falc	S'shine v F'ston
TIM WHITE	Draw	Draw	Doves	Ajax	Juve	Polonia	S'shine
LURIE SCHWAB	Albion	H-Hak	Croydon	Ajax	Juve	Polonia	S'shine
CRAIG MACKENZIE	Draw	H-Hak	Doves	Ajax	Croatia	Polonia	S'shine
BILL VUJTEK	Albion	H-Hak	Draw	Draw	Croatia	Polonia	S'shine
LES SHORROCK	Albion	H-Hak	Draw	Ajax	Croatia	Polonia	S'shine

Holford back at last?

FRANKSTON 1 (Buchanan)
CROATIA 1 (Brogan)

FRANKSTON: Gilbert 9 - Whitehead 7, Stewart 8, Drinocky 7, Pye 7 - Gully 6, Gonsalves 6 (Burrows 60th), Mitchell 6, Turill 6 - Buchanan 8, Wall 6.

CROATIA: Blazby 7 - Curcio 8, Parton 7, Adams 6, Blawer 7 - Balinovic 6 (Blazby 60th), Faulkner 7, Murphy 7 - Lett 7, Brogan 7, Golevic 6 (Antolovic 70th).

Frankston's dynamic little midfielder Carl Holford finally should return from the U.K. this week.

English recruit Pat O'Connor had had his temporary visa approved and should follow hot on Holford's heels.

On the local front Frankton continues its bid to win the services of midfielder Paul Cooke who is appealing against the transfer fee put on his head by Slavia.

And the Baysiders won their first point of the season against State League giant Melbourne Croatia.

Josip Biskic and Jozo Antolovic, Croatia's new imports, came on as substitutes in the second half and it won't be long before they find themselves in the starting line-up.

Former Slavia defender David Pye was the man assigned by Frankton coach Harry Chalkitis as the marker for Croatia's Ossie Latis and Pye did the job.

The Baysiders hit the front in the 65th minute and Croatia coach Bill McArthur probably will work on how to organise and maintain a defensive wall at training this week.

Bill Buchanan prepared to take a free kick just outside the area. A Frankston player made an off-the-ball run which broke the Croatia wall enough for Buchanan to slam his free kick low through the wall and inside the far corner of goal.

Former Frankston Pines and Slavia player Colin Mitchell had a good chance a few minutes later to put Frankton two up but shot wide with only Peter Blazby to beat.

Three minutes from time Tony Curcio made a good run down the right and crossed low to the near post where Dave Brogan side-footed in first time to give Croatia a point.

Hellas-Hakoah's blend of experienced former PS� player and exciting young prospects could reap rewards in Saturday's Greek derby against Northcote at Middle Park.

The Northerners still are searching for the combination which can take them up the table into a cosy middle of the ladder spot. Hellas-Hakoah has higher aspirations. Coach Jim Adam is eyeing a top four position.

Adam's biggest problem seems to be the lack of a top class target man for Duncan Cummings to work off.

Little Peter Abram showed a ton of cheek and bags of skill last week against Green Gully Ajax while midfielder Tony Owen certainly is a youngster earmarked for success.

However Chris Kalifatis, who started off against Ajax in mid-field, looked uncomfortable when he pushed up front after about 15 minutes of Sunday's rugged encounter.

Kalifatis would do a great job defensively for Hellas-Hakoah and Duncan Cummings surely is needed up front rather than in the midfield role he fell back into last weekend.

The permutations to Hellas-Hakoah's line-up are almost endless as coach Adam has many versatile players in his squad and I'm confident that whatever combination he comes up with for Saturday's clash can run out victorious.

For the second successive season Northcote player-coach Jim Kiriari shows a preference for sitting on the bench where he feels he better can gauge his team's performance.

I've got no doubts that Kiriari could play a vital role when it takes on visitor Albion Rovers at Jubilee Park on Saturday.

Wilhelmina currently is languishing on bottom spot in State League but I expect Mike de Bruyckere's late to pick up their first point of the season against Albion.

Morwell Falcons have a battle on their hands to beat Polonia at Raleigh Reserve on Sunday.

Polonia stopper Alex Marshall could nullify Richie McClunzie's aerial ability and Falcons right back Grant Smart will have a tough task shacking experienced Janusz Przybyla.

I'm going for a win to the home team.

Frankton City pulled off a minor shock last weekend when it almost grabbed both points away from second placed Croatia.

The Baysiders should have Carl Holford in Sunday's line-up against Sunshine at Chaplin Reserve.

The Shiners will be hoping for a return from suspension by talented winger Chris Taylor and joint coaches Ray Pocock and Steve Gaw will be trying this week to work out where their side went wrong in its dismal display against Albion Rovers on Saturday.

I'm sure that Pocock and Gaw will come up with the answers and I'm equally confident that Sunshine's aggression and commitment will just edge out Frankton on Sunday.

With no certainty I'm going for Doveton to win its first game of the season at Croydon's expense when they clash at Waratah Reserve on Sunday.

Ian Loughnane's return to form is the biggest threat to the Doves.

Macleod sent off, Lewis to Hellas?

HELLAS-HAKOAH 0 AJAX 1 (Paul, Lewis).

HELLAS-HAKOAH: Talgaris 8 - Davidson 7, Hannan 6, Jordan 6, Rooney 6 (Kakoulas 60th) - Owen 7, Wilson 6, Kalifatis 6, Kakoulas 7 (Webster 76th) - Abram 7, Cummings 6.

AJAX: Denys 7 - Peter Lewis 8, Gardiner 8, Cannell 7, G. Bennett 7 - Hogen 7, Vassallo 6, A. Bennett 6 - Paul Lewis 7, Macleod 6 (sent off 43rd), Williams 6.

Peter Lewis, Ajax's tall, aggressive right back, could have played himself into South Melbourne Hellas's PS� team with a sterling second half performance after Ajax was reduced to 10 men on Sunday.

Lewis was the subject of conversation when Ajax coach Bobby McLachlan and

Hellas supreme striker Kakoulas scored after Sunday's game at Middle Park. Hellas definitely is interested in signing the former Sunshine and Albion defender, in an effort to plug a gap in its defence which has been a major headache this year.

It was Lewis who inspired team mates and supporters alike as he surged forward beating one Hellas-Hakoah opponent then another time and again in the second 45 minutes on Sunday.

The first stanza was a spiteful, ill-tempered affair.

Rugged Hellas-Hakoah stopper George Hennah fouled G. Macleod from behind

in the 8th minute. Macleod limped throughout his remaining minute until, angry and frustrated, he swung his left arm at Hannan, missed, but was sent off by referee Balmbridge three minutes before the break.

Hellas-Hakoah's best chance fell to Kris Kalifatis just after the interval when he ran through onto Duncan Cummings' skillfully curled through ball but lobbed both Lou Denys and the Ajax cross-bar.

Ajax's stirring second half effort was rewarded in the 81st minute when a quickly taken free kick put Jim Williams in possession. He spun around and played an inch perfect through ball for Paul Lewis to run onto and slam past Lou Talgaris from about eight metres.



Now you see it, now you don't. Sunshine players peel away from the ball after hitting it before a Rob Nelson free kick against Albion on Saturday. From left to right: Nelson (obscured), Norrie Pate, John Mudrinic (partly hidden), Steve Ellis, Roger Bain, Frank Mussel (obscured). Picture by LES SHORROCK.

SHINERS OUTSHONE

ALBION ROVERS 1 (Nisbet pen), SUNSHINE CITY 1 (Pate).

ALBION ROVERS: Lecoock 6, Cutler 6, Munro 6, Creamy 6, Nisbet 6, Ruddy 7, Forrie 7, McMillan 6, O'Sullivan 6, Spiteri 6 (Leib Coyle 62), Smart 7.

SUNSHINE: Contini 6, Campbell 6, G. Gonsalves 6, Lewis 7, Mussel 6, McNally 6, Nelson 6, Bain 6, Pate 6, Mudrinic 6 (Leib Spiteri 40).

The meeting between these two bitter rivals and neighbours failed to live up to its pre-match expectations, especially where Sunshine was concerned.

Albion dominated from the start, but Sunshine took an undeserved lead in the 17th minute with a penalty. Norrie Pate crossed into the penalty box, Frank Munro pushed John McNally out of the way, and referee Sam Zoumas rightly pointed to the spot. Norrie Pate converted the spot-kick easily.

The goal didn't do much to revitalise Sunshine, and at half-time joint-coaches Ray Pocock and Steve Gaw replaced John Mudrinic with Andy Exposito.

Albion continued to domina-

te, but it wasn't the Blues' lucky day, with Bennie Ferrie hitting the crossbar, then Kieron Coyle, who had replaced Manny Spiteri, hitting the upright.

Coyle also missed another great opportunity to equalise, when after a great run by Ken Smart, he missed Smart's cross at close range.

But it all came right for Albion in the 87th minute, when Rob Nelson up-ended Garry Cutler in the box after

the right back had beaten two defenders pointless and was heading for goal. Bobby Nisbet scored from the spot, and for the last two minutes Sunshine was happy to hang on for the point.

After the game, Ray Pocock frankly admitted it was the worst his team had played for a long time, "since we last played Albion, in fact," he added, and then he locked the dressing room door and roasted his players over their attitude.

— LES SHORROCK

Potter, Provan for Juve?

JUVENTUS 3 (G. Bannon, Heery pen, Icantalupo) NORTHCOTE 1 (Fakos).

JUVENTUS: Clayton 6 - V. Bannon 7, P. Bannon 7, Donaldson 7, Hind 8 - Cunningham 7, G. Bannon 8, Swinscoe 7, Heery 7, French 7, Icantalupo 7.

NORTHCOTE: Giannopoulos 7 - Nelson 8, Bazilis 9, Petakos 7, C. Nisbet 7 - Fakos 7, Kakoulas 6, Kyriakidis 6 (Nelson 71), Bol 6 - Sahinidis 5, Kokkinos 5.

Juventus almost had finalised the signing of Heidelberg stopper Bob Provan and Croatia goalkeeper Steve Potter as we went to press.

Provan and Potter would bring Juve's list of recruits this year to nine. The three Bannon brothers, Gary Clayton, Kevin Swinscoe, Graham French and Joe McInnes are the others.

Ged Bannon was the mid-field dynamo behind Juve's victory on Sunday.

He played a one-two with brother Paddy and surged past two opponents in the 27th minute then hammered a low shot past John Giannopoulos from just inside the Northcote area.

Just after the break Northcote should have levelled. Player-coach Jim Kiriari replaced John Kyriakidis at half time, played a one-two with Ulysses Kokkinos then squared the ball to unmarked Jim Sahinidis. With the goal at his mercy Sahinidis tried to blast the ball in and shot wide.

Juve grabbed a two goal lead in the 72nd minute when Kevin Swinscoe's fine through ball set up Ged Bannon but George Bazilis brought the Juve midfielder down inside the area.

Fabio Icantalupo scored an uncharacteristic right foot goal in the 82nd minute with a fine shot from just outside the area.

SUNDAY
Ringwood Wilhelmina v Albion Rovers at Jubilee Park, 2.45 pm.

Northcote v Hellas-Hakoah at John Cain Reserve, 2.45 pm.

Doveton v Croydon at Waratah Reserve, 3 pm.

Ajax v George Cross at Green Gully Reserve, 3 pm.

Croatia v Juventus at Olympic Park No. 1, 3 pm.

Polonia v Morwell Falcons at Raleigh Reserve, 3 pm.

Sunshine v Frankton City at Chaplin Reserve, 3 pm.

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Mitten's amazing run continues

The amazing scoring record in the Dockerty Cup of Morwell Falcons striker Noel Mitten continued at Middle Park on Monday.

Mitten's goal gave Falcons a 1-0 victory against Hellas-Hakoah.

The former Irish youth international has scored in every Dockerty Cup game he has played in for the past three seasons.

His amazing scoring run started with Frankston City, lasted two seasons with Melbourne Croatia and has been continued with the Morwell club which signed him three weeks ago from Croatia for \$3,000.

Ossie Latif, signed by Croatia from Kellor Austria for \$7,000 earlier this season, hammered home four goals in Croatia's 5-0 drubbing of Metro Fourth Division Mornington.

George Cross got home 2-1 against Metro Third Division Sunbury thanks to Damien Morgan's winner in extra time.

The shock of the round was Metro First Division Frankston Pines convincing 4-0 defeat of State League Northcote at Pines' home ground.

Tall Falcons striker Richie McCulne stole the show at North Criglan Reserve on Saturday, scoring two goals before being substituted for an injury incurred early in the game.

Wilhelmina failed badly in front of goal. The visitors had plenty first half chances. Perhaps the finishing problem will be solved by UK striker Joe Carroll, who is expected to arrive on Friday.

Falcons also have an import, midfielder Harold Bingham from Port Glasgow, due soon. He should be here within a fortnight.

The gangly McCulne was bought for a mere \$1,500 from Hellas Hakoah about three weeks ago and seems to have found a new lease of life with Falcons. He won just about everything in the air on Saturday and always was prepared to run at an opponent. Falcons'

K. Middlemist 6 (Whitehurst 55th), McIlvor 6, Andrews 5, Train 2, Bone 5, C. Middlemist 5, Quin 7.

Doveton desperately needs a finisher to get onto the end of the good work out wide from winger Alan Quin.

Coach Ernie Merrick is prepared to carry his search for a striker into the Metro Leagues while he awaits the appearance of Scottish players John Dowie and Derek McCutcheon in early May.

Both Scots are on the books of First Division Clyde. Dowie is a midfielder. McCutcheon a striker.

George Cross continues its bid to sign defender Steve Carr from Sunshine.

Cross is looking fairly solid at the back, Steve Lawson, signed earlier this year from Slavia, has been in good touch and recent signing, goalkeeper "Rocky" Tachris from Northcote, did well in his debut on Sunday.

Young Tony Vella opened the scoring against Doveton. Vella looked like he was attempting to cross to the back post but the ball eluded backpedalling Doveton keeper Lou Ivimey and went in.

That was after just four minutes and Cross extended its lead in the 26th minute courtesy of a cracking 20 metre drive from Scottish midfielder Hugh McCann.

Etham signs Herd, young Hillmen shine

Metro Third Division Etham pulled off a minor coup last week with the signing of experienced Joe Herman from Polonia.

Herman, 26, has played up front in midfield and defence with Polonia since joining the Polish sponsored club as a junior.

PSL club Footscray J.U.S.T. showed a keen interest in signing Herman about five years ago when the Polonia youngster was playing as a striker and getting among the goals regularly.

Heidelberg Bundoora winger Steve Brett also has been signed by Etham coach Sandy Henderson, the former Hakoah keeper.

Box Hill had little trouble in retaining its 100 percent record at Sparks Reserve on Saturday. When Mickey Valentine hammered in the first goal in the 24th minute, the Altona Gate keeper Vince Schirripa had already been called upon to make three superb saves in order to keep his goal intact.

Fielding seven teenagers, the Hillmen always were in control against the more experienced opponents, and the complementing talents of Paul Priestly and Scott Patterson at the front, giving Valentine that little bit of extra space they were causing force Serouski and Naumoski at the centre of Vardar's defence no end of trouble.

It came as no surprise therefore when Valentine threaded his way past two defenders to crash the ball into the corner of the net with a thundering left foot drive from 25 metres to open the scoring.

Spurred on by the set-back, Altona Gate redoubled its efforts, but ex-Australian international Mike Micevski was playing very much a lone hand at the front, and Greg McLeod and Donovan Lawler at the back of the Hillmen's defence, well supported by 15 year old John Gabrielson, playing in his first senior league match, and 16 year old Alan Roodhouse, were more than equal to the task.

With Ray Toimie, Pedro Ramos and Peter Verechia working like Trojans in midfield the home side retained the ascendancy, and just before half (11th) Valentine added a second goal to the score sheet. Verechia sent Patterson away up the left flank and the big red headed striker took the ball almost to the by-line before turning it inside for Valentine to give a repeat performance of his first goal but this time from only 10 metres.

Soon after the restart Altona Gate had a good chance to reduce the lead when a searching cross from the left by Con Sarris who had replaced Dany Acecki, was headed metres wide by Micevski from close range.

In the 57th minute Box Hill made the game safe when Peter Verechia's headed interception of Derivouski's clearance was picked up by Scott Patterson who raced past the static Altona Gate defence to score with a well placed left foot drive from 12 metres.

Once again the Hillmen appeared to be beset by a strange inertia in the last 10 minutes or so, and sloppy defensive work in the 80th minute allowed the visitors to snatch a consolation goal.

Cele Talevski was fouled unnecessarily on the edge of the area near the by line. Cele Presliski took the free kick and his pinpoint centre found the head of Steve Dimovski who nodded home from the edge of the goal area completely unchanged.

NEW CITY 4 (Drougde, Williams, Petrov, Macleod) SLAVIA 0

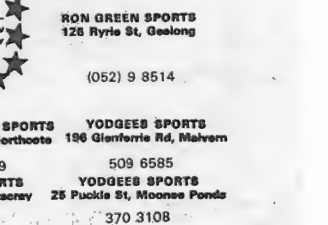
NEW CITY: Lukac 8, Drougde 7, Macleod 7, McChuskey 8, Stewart 7, Petrov 9, Savage 8, McElhinney 9, Papadimitriou 7, McCarty H.T. 71, Lynn 7, Williams 7.

SLAVIA: Maroz 7, Godol 3, Houston 8, Ord 8, Delacropo 4, Laha 5, Botinovski 6, Petre 5, Souza 5, Macchusa 6, Canales 8.

The outstanding display of midfielder Andy Savage and the brilliance of 18 year old George Petrov highlighted this win.

Petrov also played in mid-

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- YODGEE'S SPORTS
196 Glenferrie Rd, Malvern
509 6585
- YODGEE'S SPORTS
25 Puckridge St, Moonee Ponds
370 3108
- NORTHCOOTE SPORTS
568 High St, Northcote
481 2275
- PANTORE SPORTS
Shop 39 & 107 Parkmore,
Keyborough
798 4325
- ROCKY'S SPORTS
1 Burwood Hwy, Burwood
288 8916
- SOCCER CITY
129 Grey St, St Kilda
534 5559
- STRANGERS
308 Clayton Rd, Clayton
544 2925
- WESTGATE SPORTS
169 Railway Ave, Laverton
369 1298
- YODGEE'S SPORTS
55 Leeds St, Footscray
68 3835
- DE GRANDI SPORTS
68 Mercer St, Geelong
(051) 34 3132
- MORRIS SPORTS
185 Meade St, Shepparton
(058) 21 2394
- RON GREEN SPORTS
128 Rye St, Geelong
(052) 9 8514

IN
FOCUS

Hungarian manager Kalman Meszoly was not overwhelmed by the performance of his team on its recent tour of this country and New Zealand.

In fact, in one of his first statements upon returning to Budapest, he ominously announced that "we are in for some rude shocks if the team doesn't pull up its socks."

Hungarians being a special kind of human species, especially the soccer fans among them, Meszoly's warnings were quickly forgotten as the national squad won on leading Bognar out of Antwerp and won 8-2.

Now, maybe I am conspiratorially minded, but how about considering the following hypothetical scenario:

• Hungary and Belgium are drawn in the same World Cup group in Spain.

• The Belgians are smart cookies from way back and decide to send one of their very best teams to Budapest for a fairly meaningless midweek trial match — minus some of their better known players.

• Hungary duly wins by a huge margin, including a pleasant sense of confidence which, allowing one to take into account the fact that the Hungarians, soon changes into over-confidence.

Sounds far fetched you say? How do I know so much about the Hungarian character?

Now, the next two facts:

• I am Hungarian by birth, and

• Hungary lost its very next game in Budapest, this time against an Austria which hasn't been too impressive in recent months and still managed to race to a 3-0 lead against the Magyars, before easing up and winning 3-2.

Perhaps Meszoly was right.

His luck might have been that the "rude shock" arrived early enough for some drastic corrections to be made.

What did Meszoly think of his team's opponents in the Antipodes?

He expressed major surprise at the unexpectedly high standard of play by his Australian opponents, was extremely pleased by the facilities they played and trained in and was concerned about his players' shortcomings in speed and man-to-man play against fit and determined opposition.

He was less flattering in his assessment of the Kiwis, whom he described as playing "typical English soccer," not meant in the complimentary sense.

Hear ye, brethren! Get ready for the Second Coming.

No, it's not the Messiah, although one may be excused for thinking so, judging by the accompanying hullabaloo.

It's the "Second Coming" of the Doc — or is it the third, fourth, fifth ...

The Doc is none other, of course, than Tommy Docherty, who is about to descend on our shores once again, this time for a fortnight's training camp for juniors.

Fair enough — and good for us.

Less than fair is the speculation which immediately surrounded Doug Collins' position as Sydney Olympic's manager-coach.

The Doc's imminent arrival spawned stories on the possibility of his return to the Olympic fold in one guise or another.

In spite of strenuous denials by Olympic officials the stories persisted.

I suppose the best possible antidote was Doug leading his boys to famous victories over APFA and Marconi.

Tommy Docherty is one of soccer's best known characters and during his short sojourn with Olympic last season he managed to whip up more publicity for himself — and soccer incidentally — than any single other person I can think of in the past decade, with Rudi Gutendorf running a close second.

He has the talent as a coach-manager — and is undeniable, going by some — and emphasise some — of his achievements overseas.

However, I would question the many claims about his professionalism.

Not only did he pack up in mid-season and run out on Olympic for the sake of a chance to lead Third Division Preston North End in the English League, but he left a pretty bad taste in the mouths of some Aussie soccer folk back in the early sixties, as well.

On a visit to Sydney with Chelsea he spotted a couple of youngsters in minor fixtures here.

One of them was Colin Minor, a nice young man with some measure of football skills, but not in the Superstar class.

It was, therefore with some surprise that many of us suddenly saw Minor whiskered off to Britain with promises of a fabulous professional future ringing in his ears.

Within a very short space of time the younger was unceremoniously returned to these shores as a failure.

The whole episode smacked of publicity-seeking, lack of professional appraisal and publicity campaigns with some measure of wry caution.

But, I must admit, soccer would be a much duller sport without him.

I noted with interest that Kevin Mullen was the only Sydney City Hawks player in the match against Footscray JUST not to have the logo of club sponsor Presto on his shirt.

Has he turned vegetarian?

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 Round 100: Melbourne



• Standing, from left: Steve Hozzowski (from Auburn, 1979), Angelo Ambrosino (Aust. Sports Institute, 1982), Ian Gibson (ex-Aberdeen, joined 1981), John Moutsopoulos, Walter Valeri (Inter Monara, 1980), Mike Milovanovic (returned from Blacktown this year), Front: Don McLaren (Hearst, Scotland, 1979), Gary Byrne (Marconi, 1982), Tony Brennan (Brisbane Lions, 1980), Ian Stone (Sydney Croatia, 1982), Jim Murray (Aust. Sports Institute, 1982). Inset: from left: Paul Ontong (Brisbane Lions, 1982), Terry Byrne (Preston North End, 1979), George Christopoulos (8th Mlb, Hellas, 1982). Missing: Ian Purdie (ex-Aberdeen).

• Amalgamation this year with Downer Olympic, the A.C.T. Greek-sponsored club, has enabled Canberra coach George Murray to strengthen his squad with Gary Byrne from Marconi, George Christopoulos (Hellas, Paul Ontong (Brisbane Lions), Ian Stone (Croatia) and Mike Milovanovic, who returned after a year with Blacktown, after losing the three O'Shea brothers to St George. Canberra City was formed as a new club for the inaugural 1977 PSL season. It finished 13th in 1977 and 1978, 12th in 1979, 10th in 1980 and jumped to fifth in 1981. Murray is hoping for continued improvement in 1982.



First Cup for Shiners



Sunshine City was presented last week with its first Victorian State League trophy, the Buffalo Cup. From left: committeemen Scott Frew and Bill McCulloch, Norrie Pate, Alan Condit, Steve Gaw, Harry Mills and Ray Pocock.

Power to the super kids!

Bravo Jason Nieuwenhof, for wowing them at the official launching of the McDonald's Super Skills scheme.

Jason, 10, of Hornsby Heights, juggled the ball non-stop throughout the demonstration, orchestrated by the Australian Director of Coaching, Eric Worthington, to illustrate the level of skill we're looking for our juniors.

The Super Skills programme, I am sure, will have a positive effect on improving those skills.

Jason is one of an elite group of boys who serve as an example to all the others. Remember Russell Robinson?

A few years ago Russell, a Queensland teenager, broke the world record by juggling the ball 32,820 times. He was still going strong, sucking oranges every now and then, when Roselands Shopping Centre, where he was staging his assault on the record, had to close its doors. He looked like he could have gone on for a few more hours yet.

One of the Blacktown "super kids" at our club's soccer academy, Rodney Jackson, has held the ball up 2418 times. These boys deserve greater recognition. They should be utilised a lot more as examples of the skill level which can be achieved through application and dedication. Perhaps they should become a more integral part of the McDonald's scheme.

What makes me proud in that many such youngsters have passed through our Australian Soccer Camps at Dural. They are to be run again over the May school holidays and already they're booked out. Ian Hunter, who was captain of the Australian youth team last year, passed through our camps a few years ago.

This time Otis Abonyi's Riverwood club has booked in 40 of its juniors in under 13, 14, 15 and 16 age groups, as part of a drive to raise their standard of soccer.

Any camps or clinics of this type must benefit the boys, so long as the programme is aimed at raising the skill level. And so the Blacktown super kids have been booked in at the Narrabeen Fitness Centre on April 24, 25 and 26, also with that purpose in mind.

With the PSL now in full swing, I've been feeling increasingly disappointed with the performance of South Melbourne Hellas, which promised so much at the start of the year.

The Grant Turner affair must have contributed to Hellas's comparatively ordinary run. I was impressed by Turner in New Zealand's 2-0 World Cup victory over Australia, so I contacted one of the top soccer men in New Zealand about the possibility of signing him.

The answer was: "Don't touch him."

So I didn't. It surprised me therefore that Hellas went out and bought him. Obviously the club had not made a proper check on what it would get for its money.

Turner may be younger than Branko Buljevic, who subsequently had to spend much time on the bench, but Buljevic certainly would have contributed a great deal more than Turner.

Isn't it sad that we really don't show adequate respect to the real heroes of our sport?

It certainly was reassuring to see the 12,000-plus crowd at Olympic's game against APIA. The crowd was a tribute to the exciting soccer being produced by both teams.

There also was a good crowd at Olympic's Ampol Cup match against Croatia. But whereas Olympic beat APIA, it lost 0-1 to Fil Botolico's team although Croatia played



RALE RASIC

without Mark Trenter, Phil Hensman, Marian Kovacic and his Brazilians.

Olympic undoubtedly is a highly talented team, but it has defensive weaknesses which Croatia exploited to create eight scoring chances.

Dubravko Ledic, welcome to Australia!

A player of his calibre can do nothing but glorify our soccer.

Ledic, 30, has played more than 1000 matches for Yugoslav club Velez Mostar as a junior and senior. He captained Velez before joining Marconi last week.

Good to see Peter Ollerton doing so well as coach of Preston-Makedonia.

Ollerton had a reputation of being a somewhat undisciplined player, but now, when it counts, he's really knuckling down and getting the results. Accumulation of points is the yardstick of soccer success, and Makedonia has been picking up points consistently — showing its attacking flair at home and playing it tight away.

Makedonia has been the surprise packet of the PSL so far and Peter Ollerton is the man behind that success.

Moreland's silver jubilee

Victorian Metro First Division club Moreland is celebrating its silver jubilee year.

Former Glasgow Celtic and Scotland full-back Duncan McKay has taken over the reins and is backed by assistant coach Johnny Johnston who was with Third Division Coburg last year.

Big things are expected from Moreland's promising crop of youngsters who have progressed through the junior ranks and now are preparing to make a major impact upon the senior scene.

No less than eight such youngsters figured in Moreland's 5-2 victory over Slavia a few weeks ago in the Metro League Cup with striker Sammy Asvestas scoring twice.

Kevin Nevrouis, a 16-year-old centre half, shows great potential and midfielder Gus



The Victorian western region team under-14 champion. Back row: C. Orfanidic, S. Mikic, J. Grimavo, R. Drogovic, I. Lopatic, R. Falzon, T. Narcisco, M. Saliba, S. D'Alonzo. Front row: J. Tapaolous, D. Smith, F. Spitzer, J. Borg, J. Scamtopoulos, A. Brkic, V. Mitrovic, Arnold Andrew (coach).

TA NEA TON OMAON MASON APO TO SHMEIO TOY PENALTY

NEA HTTA TOY MALABERN STITY

Μία ακόμη ήττα δέχθηκε το Μάλβερν Σίτυ μέσα στο γήπεδό του γιά το πρωτάθλημα της Β' κατηγορίας του Προβίτζιοναλ.

Παρά το ότι έπαιξε μαχητικά και κατά διαστήματα καλή μπάλλα, τελικά έχασε από το Μπουλντν με 3-2.

Το Μάλβερν Σίτυ μ' τεχνικό δόγηδ και πάλι τον Νίκο Νικολάου και παρά την άπουσία 4 βασικών του στελεχών, προηγήθηκε στο σκόρ με τον Γεωργιάδη αλλά η φιλοξένο ομάδα με την λήξη του ήμιχρόνου κατόφερε να περάσει μπροστά στο σκόρ με 2-1.

Στην επανάληψη απεβλήθει ο Γεωργιάδης και το Μάλβερν έμεινε με 10 παίκτες γιά να δεχθεί λίγο μετά και τρίτο τέρμα.

Το τελικό σκόρ έφτιαξε ο Σκαμάγκας 2-3. Ή σύνθεση: Μανέν, Παπαδόπουλος, Βλάχος, Λιαράκος, Τσίμος, Ρούμπρος, Σαματζής, Λιάλιος, Γεωργιάδης, Λιχόδης, Πετρόπουλος και Σκαμάγκας ο οποίος στο 75' πήρε την θέση του Ρούμπρου.

Ή Β' ομάδα του Μάλβερν έχασε με 3-1 από την αντίστοιχη του Μπουλντν.

ΠΑΝΕΡΠΑΚΤΟΣ: ΘΑΡΕ ΠΟΛΛΕΣ ΚΑΡΤΕΙΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΤΕΣΣΕΡΑ ΓΚΟΛ

Ο Πανσερραϊκός δεν άντεξε στις κλωτσιές και στο αντιαθλητικό παξίμο των αντιπάλων του και τελικά υπέκυψε εντός έδρας από το Ντόλλας Σίτυ με το βαρό 4-0.

Ο αγώνας ήταν γιά το πρωτάθλημα της Γ' κατηγορίας του Προβίτζιοναλ και όπως ούποτε έλέγχεται ο διαιτητής ο οποίος έά έπρεπε κανονικά να στείλει τους μισούς από τους αντιπάλους στο στίβιο τους και όχι μόνον δύο που απέβαλε.

Τό ότι έδειξε άλλες 6 κίτρινες κάρτες στους γηπεδοφύλους, φαίνεται καθαρά ότι οι αντίπαλοι κυνηγούσαν τά πόδια των έλλήνων παικτών και όχι την μπάλλα.

Ετό 10' τραυματίσθηκε ο Τοτσίδης και αντικαταστάθηκε από τον Άσσημάνη.

Έπίσης στο 75' κτύπησε και ο Μηνάς και βγήκε εντός μάχης.

Τραυματισμένοι άγωνίζοντουσαν και οι Μαβρί, Άσσημάνης, Μαρτσόγλου.

Αν και το σκόρ είναι βαρό δεν άναποκρίνεται στην πραγματικότητα.

Έπαιξαν οι: Π. Κεχαγιάς, Β. Βαβάς, Κωνσταντίνος, Μητρούσης, Γ. Βαβάς, Θ. Κεχαγιάς, Τσετίνης, Μαρτσόγλου, Μηνάς, (75' Τσιωράκος), Δημητράκης, Τοτσίδης (10' Άσσημάνης).

ΑΤΚΗΝΗ Η ΓΟΡΕΙΑ ΤΗΣ Ν.ΕΛΛΑΔΕ

Μία ακόμη ήττα έκανε ή Ν.ΕΛΛΑΔΕ μέσα στο γήπεδο της αυτή τη φορά και άρχισε να κατρακυλάει επικίνδυνα στις τελευταίες θέσεις του βαθμολογικού πίνακα του πρωταθλήματος της Γ' κατηγορίας του Μετροπόλιταν Λίγκ.

Αν και οι νεαροί παίκτες της, έδειξαν άρκετές άρετές στην συνάντηση του Πόρτ Μέλμπορν με το Περάν Σίτυ, τελικά γεβθήκαν την ήττα με 3-2.

Με γενικές γραμμές ή ομάδα ήταν καλή άπώ την μεσαία γραμμή και μετά και τό μόνο της τρωτό σημείο ήταν ή άμυνα ή οποία γιά μία ακόμη εβδομάδα παρουσιάσθηκε άσταθής και μέχρι τώρα εέ 4 αγώνες έχει δεχθεί 12 τέρματα που σίγουρα δεν είναι καθόλου ευχάριστο.

Από την ελληνική ήμάδα ο καλύτερος παίκτης ήταν ο Κωστόπουλος και τον άκολουθήσαν οι Πήτερσον και Λαζαρίδης.

Τό Περάν Σίτυ άνοιξε τό σκόρ στο 2' αλλά ο πεπειραμένος Λαζαρίδης στο 44' μέ δυνατό σούτ έξω από την μεγάλη περιοχή έφτιαξε τό 1-1.

Στό Β' μέρος και στο 50' ή ομάδα του Πόρτ Μέλμπορν προηγήθηκε στο σκόρ και πήρε την υπεροχή αλλά από λάθος του γκολκίπερ Πασάκου τό Περάν ίσοφρίσε στο 55' και στο 74' πέτυχε τό γκόλ που τόό χάρισε και την νίκη.

Ή Ν.ΕΛΛΑΔΕ μπορεί να χαρακτηριστεί και σαν άτυχη στην συνάντηση αυτή άφού τρία σούτ των Σταυρίδη, Λαζαρίδη και Γκέρσιου βρήκαν τά δοκάρια των αντιπάλων.

Έπαιξαν οι: Πασάκος, Χατζηπαναγιώτου, Παγάνης, Δούνας, Κοτζαμυχάλης, Κωστόπουλος, Πήτερσον, Τσολλάκης (46' Σκαμλάκης) Σταυρίδης, Γκέρσιος και Λαζαρίδης.

ΜΕ ΠΟΛΛΟΥΣ ΠΑΙΚΤΕΣ ΑΠΟΝΤΕΣ Η ΔΟΞΑ Ι - Ο ΤΟ ΚΑΥΝΕΤΟΝ

Νέα νίκη πήρε ή Δόξα Γιάφραβιλ γιά τό πρωτάθλημα της Β' κατηγορίας του Προβίτζιοναλ άφημ και συνεχίζει να είναι πρωτοπόρος στον βαθμολογικό πίνακα. Θύμα της αυτή τη φορά τό Κάυνετον που μέσα στο άνωτάλληλο γήπεδό του ύποδέχθηκε την ελληνική ομάδα άρκετά σκληρά και άντιαθλητικά.

Αποτέλεσμα ήταν να άναγκασθεί ο διαιτητής να άποβάλλει στο 70' έναν παίκτη άπό την γηπεδοφύλο και να δείξει άρκετές κίτρινες κάρτες.

Ή ελληνική ομάδα μας του Γιάφραβιλ χωρίς τους βασικούς της παίκτες Νίκο Μελέτι, Βαγγέλη Τερζάκη και Άθα Ψαμπίρη, ξεκίνησε δυνατά και έκλεισε στην περιοχή τους τους αντιπάλους που έδιωχναν άπως - άπως την μπάλλα από την έστία τους γιά να κρατήσουν τό ίσόπαλο άποτέλεσμα.

Παρά τό καταστροφικό παιχνίδι των παικτών του Κάυνετον, ή Δόξα βόδθηκε πολλές φορές κοντά στο γκόλ και νεαυιά του χέτα στο 27' μόλις πρόλαβε ο γκολκίπερ.

Έπίσης σούτ των Πετρίδη, Νικολαΐδη και Χύτα είχαν την ίδια τύχη.

Τό μοναδικό τέρμα της κυανολεύκου πέτυχε ο Α. Νικολαΐδης στο 45' μέ τρομερή βολίδα από 40 μέτρα που έστειλε την μπάλλα να βρεί πρώτα την οριζόντια δοκό και μετά τά δίκτυα του Κάυνετον.

Στό Β' μέρος παρά τις προσπάθειες τό παικτών του Γιάφραβιλ γιά δεύτερο τέρμα τό σκόρ δεν άλλαξε.

Με την Δόξα έπαιξαν οι: Νίκος Άποστολίδης (Κάπταιν), Τ. Άμμαναΐδης, Ντέν, Άποστολίδης, Δημητρίου, Στ. Άμμαναΐδης, Καλλιπολίτης, Πετρίδης, Νικολαΐδης, Μαρτσάκης (65' Χρ. Παπαχριστοδούλου), Χύτας, Τ. Παπαχριστοδούλου.

Όπως ούποτε θα πρέπει κάποιος ύπεύθυνος από την Βικτωριανή Όμοσπονδία να κάνει τον κόπο και να πάει να έλέγξει τό γήπεδο του Κάυνετον.

Όταν βάζουν στις διάφορες κατηγορίες ομάδες από μακρυά χωριά, είναι και ύποχρεωμένοι να τους έξηγούν τά κατάλληλα μέτρα του άγωνιστικού χάρου και πώς τό γήπεδο θα πρέπει να έχει δοκάρια και όχι κάτι τέρματα που θυμίζουν περισσότερο έστια χόκεϋ παρά έστια γιά ποδοσφαίρικό άγώνα.

ΗΤΤΑ ΤΟΥ ΜΟΝΤΙΑΛΛΟΚ

Αν και υπερείχε τό Μοντιάλλοκ με την Μπουντόρα εντός έδρας, τελικά έχασε με 2-0 από δύο βασικά σφάλματα της άμύνης της. Εσχάρισαν οι Πάπας, Άναστασιάδης, Λαζόγκας και Δρογνάκης.

ΚΛΑΡΙΝΤΑ: ΚΑΛΗ ΑΠΟΔΟΣΗ ΚΑΙ ΗΤΤΑ

Ή Κλαρίντα στο γήπεδο της έπαιξε καλό ποδόσφαιρο, έχασε πέναλτυ (Τοπκλίδης) έίχε υπεροχή αλλά τελικά έχασε από τό Άμποτφορντ με 2-1. Τό μοναδικό τέρμα πέτυχε ο Χ. Χαράλαμπος.



C. Lazogaz of South Melbourne Mordialloc

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